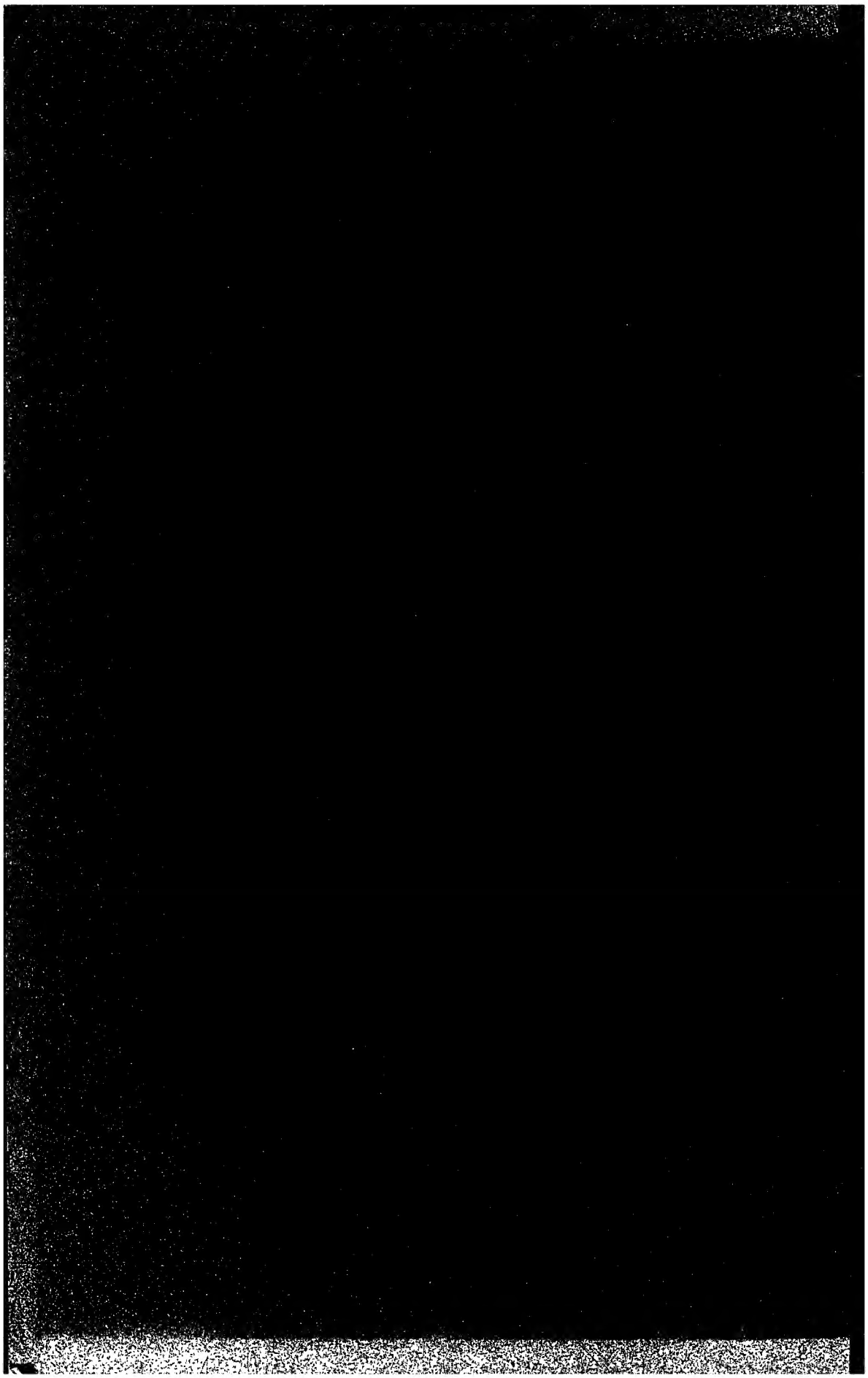
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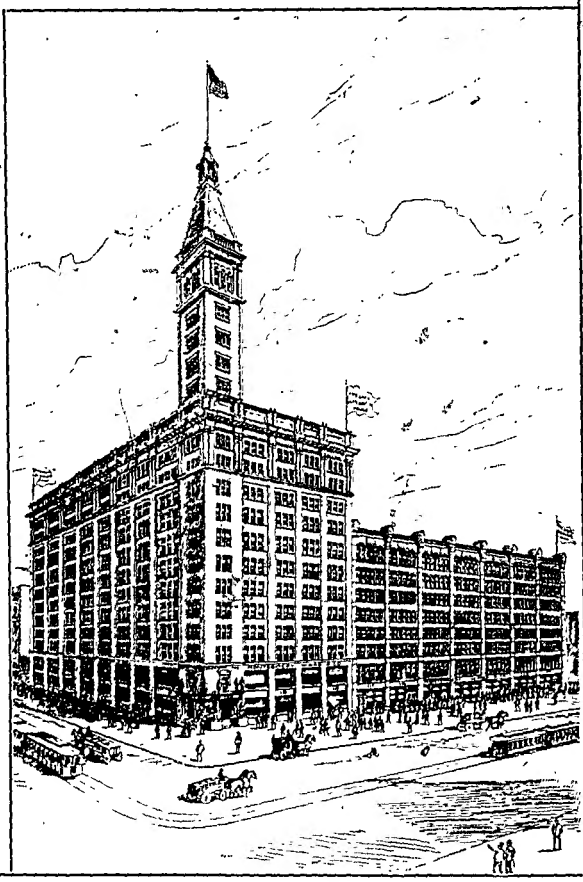
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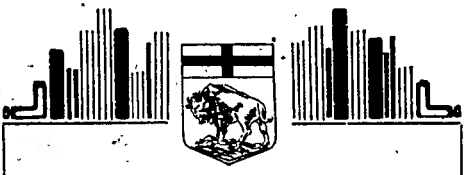
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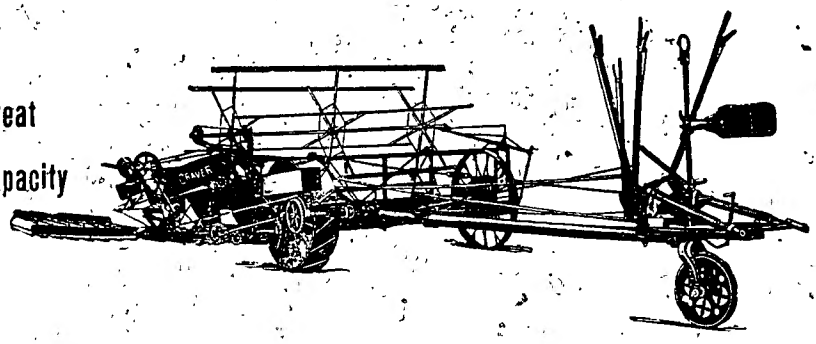
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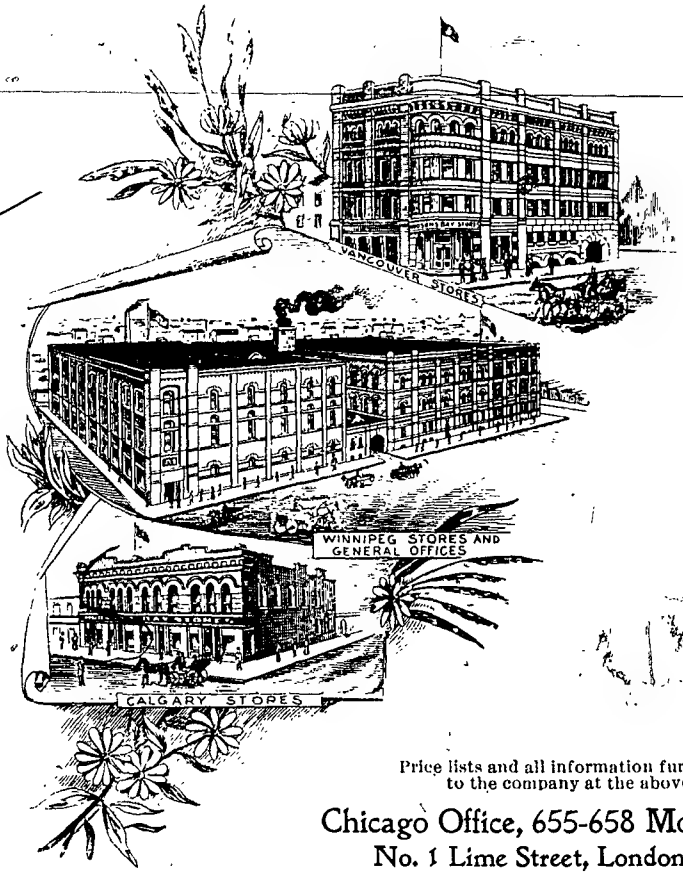
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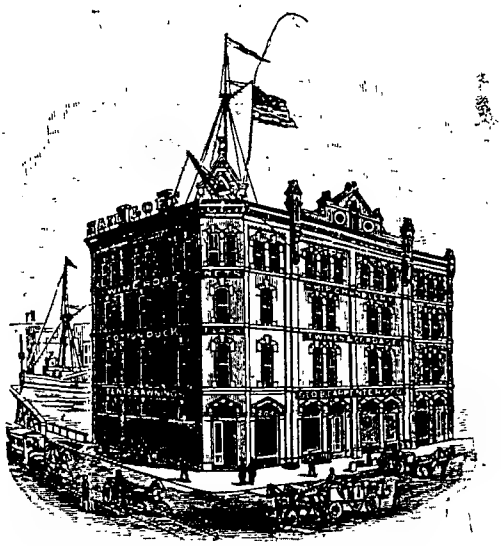
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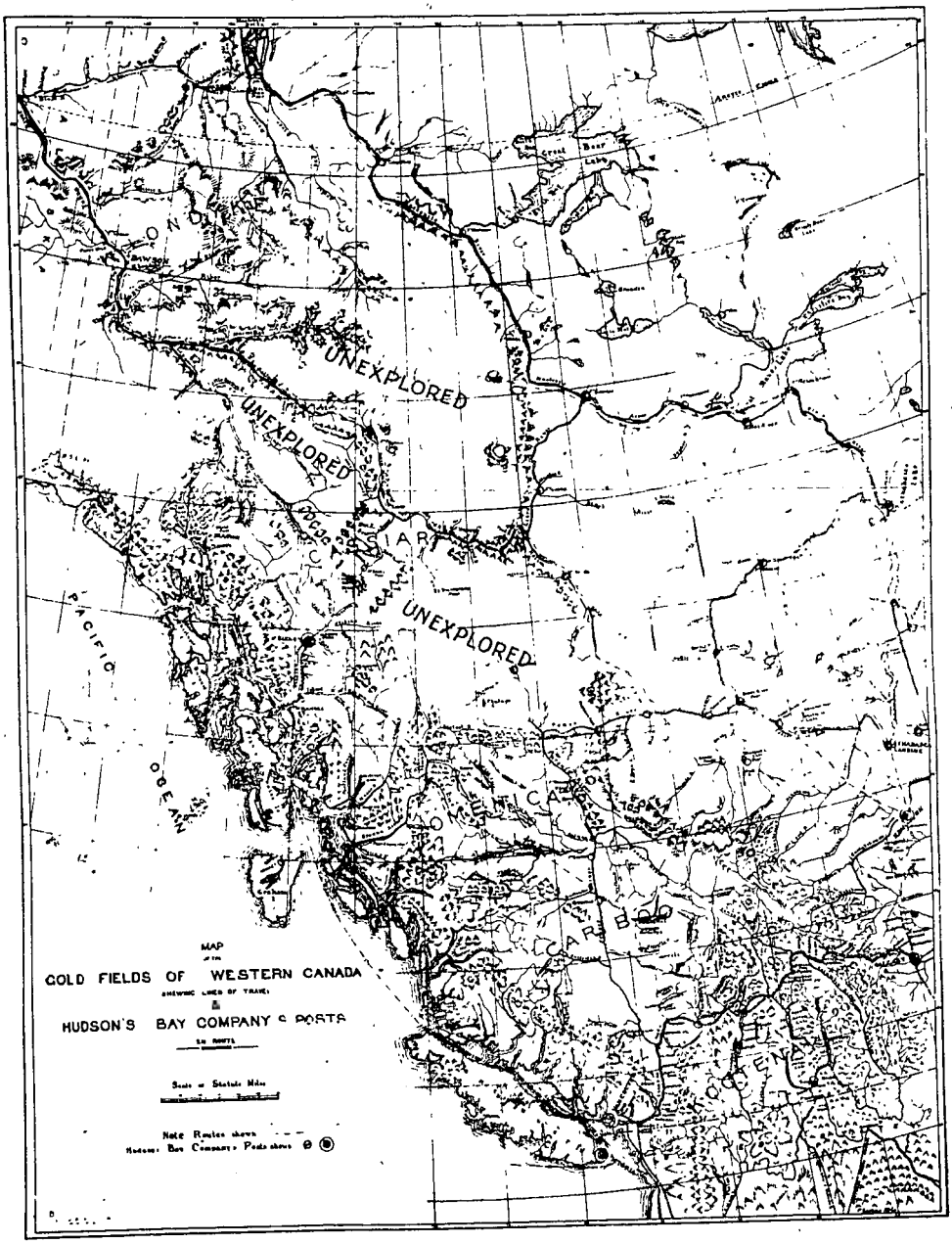
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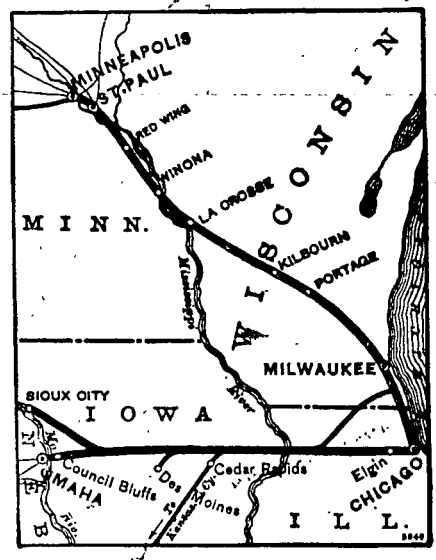


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Preface

FAR to the north of the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway stretches the northern part of the Dominion of Canada, until the far-famed wheat fields of its fertile belt are forgotten and left behind and the ice-bound shores of the Arctic Ocean are reached where the foot of only the intrepid explorer has trodden. Throughout this vast area, stretching as it does from the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the rocky shores of the Labrador coast to the peaceful and quiet scenery of the Pacific, and from the southern savannas to far within the Arctic circle, where night and day hold alternate sway but once in the year, lie the posts and stations of the old and famous Hudson's Bay Company.

The traveler who leaves the comforts of his home in the States and who a few days later revels in the beauteous scenes of the north shore of Lake Superior may perhaps not realize that he is entering a country where for more than two centuries and a quarter the oldest company in the world has carried on trade, and where for nearly the greater part of that time it held supreme control over all the residents—Indians and half-breeds. Rushing along and catching occasional glimpses of old fashioned buildings with the name "Hudson's Bay Company" still upon them, the traveler may find it difficult to realize that this company is still in existence.

When it is considered that this company has been actively engaged in business on the American continent for two hundred and twenty-eight years and that some of its largest establishments have been located in the rich mining districts of British Columbia and Northwest Territory during the past seventy-five years, and that a majority of the miners who went to California in 1848-9 and to British Columbia in 1858-9, were outfitted by this company, it may not be uninteresting at this time to trace briefly some of its history, when all the world is looking toward the great northwest on account of the gold discoveries in the Yukon country. In this connection it is interesting to note that the company established Fort Yukon, which is 250 miles north of Dawson City on the Yukon River, in 1834, and Fort Selkirk, which is above Dawson City, in 1848.

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HISTORY OF THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

ON BEHALF of a company of London merchants, Henry Hudson in 1607 sailed to the east coast of Greenland, in an attempt to discover a Northwest passage. The year following a similar attempt resulted in failure. The enthusiasm of the London merchants cooling, Hudson turned his steps toward Holland, where a small yacht called the "Half Moon" was furnished him by the Dutch East India Company, in which in 1609 he sailed northward, but baffled by icebergs, he turned his prow west, touched at Newfoundland, whence coasting southward he entered New York Harbor and ascended the river which bears his name.

After this success for the Dutch, almost before Holland had independent national existence, the London merchants were ready for another venture. Sailing in the "Discovery" in 1610, Hudson followed Frobisher's track, and passing through Hudson Strait entered an inland sea, virgin to European keels. This was, indeed, a long-sought highway to India, but as he continued his course, the astonished shores of Hudson Bay held him in wintry embrace, and when spring approached the patience of the crew was gone. Breaking into mutiny, they seized the commander and his son and with seven faithful sailors, cast them off in an open shallop among the icebergs. It was the last that was heard of them.

Exploration, English and French, by sea and land, slowly followed. Capt. James wintered at Hudson or James Bay in 1632, and in 1656 Jean Bourbon sailed to the farther end of the bay in a vessel of thirty tons, trafficking with the natives. Little was thought of this far north inland icy sea, with its low, marshy shores; at this time it was scarcely deemed worth fighting for. Though fur-bearing animals were plentiful, there was no lack of them in less inhospitable climes. Hence, when in 1626, Louis XIII gave the Compagnie de la Nonvelle, France, a charter of the district, little attention was paid to it.

Some time after, however, a Frenchman named Grosseliez visiting that region, became deeply impressed by its neglected wealth, and proposed to his Government to utilize it, but without success. Title and ownership being questions of little moment, Grosseliez addressed himself to the Court of England, where in Prince Rupert he found a patron. A vessel called the "Nonsuch-ketch," Capt. Zachary Gillan, was equipped, in which Grosseliez, with a renegade companion named Rabisson, sailed in 1668 for Hudson Bay, wintered on the east main land near Rupert River, and built there the first fort, calling it Fort Charles. Returning with the prestige of success, a charter was obtained from King Charles II in favor of the "Governor and company of adventurers

of England trading into Hudson Bay," dated May 2d, 1670, but which became known shortly after as "The Hudson's Bay Company." Prince Rupert was the first Governor, and has been followed since by some of the most illustrious names in English history. The charter assured the dukes, earls, lords, knights and gentlemen composing it, and their successors, of the sole trade to Hudson Strait and Bay, with permanent proprietorship over all the countries, coasts and confines of lands, seas or lakes and rivers not actually possessed by the subjects of any other Christian Prince, with all the animals, fish and minerals therein contained, to be reckoned as one of the British plantations or colonies in America, under the name of "Rupert Land." Over this territory and the natives thereof, the company was to exercise, have supreme civil and criminal jurisdiction, with power to pass laws, grant lands, and make war and peace with any nations not Christian. For exactly two hundred years, or until 1870, when the territory was brought under the Dominion of Canada, the company thus enjoyed, under the Crown, all the rights and powers of commercial sovereignty.

The consideration given by the company for the charter was "yielding and paying yearly to us, our heirs and successors, for the same, two elks and two black beavers whensoever and so often as we, or our heirs and successors shall happen to enter into said countries, territories and regions hereby granted."

For several years the company made little or no effort to penetrate into the interior, and many years passed before the company was fairly established. Between the years 1670 and 1697, heavy losses were sustained, owing to the French depredations but, notwithstanding this, the profits of the company seem to have been very large, as the proprietors in 1604 received a return of 50 per cent on their capital, another 50 per cent in 1688, and a further 25 per cent in 1689. In 1690 the stock was trebled without any call being made, besides according a payment to the proprietors of 25 per cent on the increase of newly created stock. Up to the time of the retirement of France from British North America, the Hudson's Bay Company admits it had no great cause for complaint of interference with the inland trade, but after that time its rights of territory and trade were interrupted by rival traders. This led to animosities, feuds and breaches of the peace, extending to loss of life and considerable destruction of property, and was also injurious to the native Indian by reason of the unrestricted use of spirituous liquors and other demoralizing influences which resulted. So prejudicial to the interests of the company was the struggle that, between 1800 and 1821, a period of twenty-two years, its dividends for the first eight years were reduced to 4 per cent. During the next six years it could not pay any dividends at all, and for the remaining eight years it could only pay 4 per cent. Its greatest competitor was the Northwest Company, formed in Montreal, in 1773–4. A third company, the X–Y Company, was founded in 1798. They coalesced in 1805, the result being a very strong combination against the original company. The Northwest Company had pushed its way far inland before the Hudson's Bay Company was induced to follow its example. Indeed, it was not until 1793 that the company established itself in the Red River country. This commercial war lasted for years and was carried into the very heart of the territories, each company placing forts along side those of the other. The violence of the contest had

nearly exhausted the means of both parties, and in 1821 an arrangement was entered into whereby the younger company joined its interests with those of the Hudson's Bay Company.

While this was going on in the north fur companies were being established south of the American boundary line and carried on an active trade in peltries in that region. First, the Mackinaw Company was formed, and held a monopoly until the American Fur Company was established by Mr. Astor in 1809, when the two became amalgamated under the name of the "Southwest," in contradistinction to the "Northwest" Company. Mr. John Jacob Astor, of New York, a German by birth, but a citizen of the United States, had raised himself by his adventurous and enterprising spirit from small beginnings to be one of the most eminent merchants in America. Soon after his arrival in the United States in 1784, he commenced his commercial career in the traffic of furs, at first on a narrow scale, but gradually expanding as his means increased. In this way he made visits to Canada, purchasing furs and shipping them direct to the London markets, and it is supposed that at this period his buoyant and aspiring mind conceived the vast project of grasping in his own hands at some future day the whole fur trade of North America.

Mr. Astor, when he saw himself at the head of the great Southwest Company, formed the idea of penetrating through the barriers of the northern country so as to come eventually into possession of all the fur trade east of the Rocky Mountains. As a stepping stone to the accomplishment of this grand scheme, he turned his attention to the trade on the coast of the Pacific, which at the time was chiefly in the hands of the Russians. A few American coasting vessels also carried on a lucrative trade, and Mr. Astor perceived that if such limited and desultory traffic produced large profits, a well regulated trade, supported by capital and prosecuted with system, would result in immense gains.

The first step taken by him was the formation of a branch of the fur-trading business which he styled the "Pacific Fur Company," the Grand Central Depot of which was to be at the mouth of the Columbia River. He thus contemplated carrying off all the furs west of the Rocky Mountains by forming a chain of trading posts across the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific. He hoped, by means of his Southwest Company in the East and the Pacific Company in the West, to capture the entire trade of the country. It was a grand commercial scheme and attracted much attention at the time, especially in the United States, but Mr. Astor did not sufficiently take into consideration the power, influence and activity of the Northwest Company when laying his plans. Then followed four years of desperate struggle between the two companies, the disastrous attempt to found Astoria and the final collapse of the American schemes.

After the two companies joined issues in 1821, things went more smoothly for a time. The company obtained the right to exclusive trading in a wide district, known as the Indian Territory, extending west of the Rocky Mountains; and it held sway over a country more than half as large as Europe. Until 1833 it was the sole source from which supplies could be purchased by the inhabitants, and the only market open for the disposal of their furs. Its posts and forts, which gave employment to about 3,000 men, were found in Labrador around Hudson's Bay, in the West and Northwest and west of the Rocky

Mountains. However, the march of events soon began to interfere with the virtual monopoly of the company and which it had enjoyed for so many years. In 1857 a select committee of the House of Commons was ordered to consider the state of those British possessions in North America which are under the administration of the Hudson's Bay Company, or over which they possess a license to trade. The committee reported that whatever might be the validity or otherwise of the rights claimed by the company under its charter, it was desirable that the company should be allowed to continue its exclusive trading except in so far as that privilege might be limited by the other resolutions. The feeling of the committee was decidedly against open competition in the fur trade, on the ground that it might tend to demoralize the Indians and bring about the total destruction of the more valuable fur-bearing animals. In fact, the report of the committee may be described as a most satisfactory answer to the representations from Canada that led to the investigation.

In 1858 the grant to the company of Vancouver Island, which dated from 1849, came to an end and was not renewed, the country being formed into a Crown colony. On the expiration of its license in the Indian Territory in 1859, the main land of British Columbia was made into a separate colony also. The two were united under one government subsequently in 1866. The withdrawal of the license of the company from what is now British Columbia seemed to be the beginning of the end of its exclusive administration in the country to the east of the mountains included in its charter. Its control tended to weaken from various causes, and during the next few years negotiations were in progress for the transfer of its rights to the Imperial Government. In 1869 an agreement was arrived at, by which the company consented to accept £300,000 for the surrender of the territory to Canada through the Imperial Government, retaining certain lands in the vicinity of its forts and trading posts and one-twentieth part of the land in the fertile belt. Its proportion in the district in question will reach several millions of acres. At the present time, the land grant is over three millions of acres, which may be increased to seven million acres or even more as surveys progress. A portion of the Red River settlers, however, refused to recognize the transfer of the country, or to be handed over to Canada, and much trouble resulted, culminating in the Riel Rebellion of 1869-70. A military expedition was dispatched in 1870, under Col. (now Field Marshal and Commander in Chief, Lord) Wolseley, but the insurrection was practically at an end before the arrival of the force. As illustrating the conditions of travel at the time, it may be stated that it took Lord Wolseley from May 25th to August 23rd to convey his small force from Port Arthur to Fort Garry, a journey which can now be made by train in twenty hours.

The principal business of the Hudson's Bay Company was the purchase of furs from the Indians in exchange for arms and ammunition, clothes and other commodities imported from the United Kingdom. For a long period prior to the surrender of the company's charter, the most valuable trade of the Hudson's Bay Company was in the remote districts, where, nobody having the power to interfere with them, they took measures by which the fur trade was preserved. They encouraged the Indians only to kill a certain number of animals when in good season for their furs, and not to kill so many as to interfere with the continued supply. The price given for furs varied with the state of the market, but it was also arranged so as to allow the company's policy for the preservation

of the fur trade to be properly carried out. There is not much large game now in the region traversed by the Canadian Pacific Railway, except perhaps in the more inaccessible districts between the lakes and Hudson's Bay and in the territory north and northwest of the River Saskatchewan. The buffalo, which used to furnish the Indian with food, shelter and raiment, is almost extinct and it is possible to travel over the prairie for hundreds of miles without seeing any large animal other than coyotes and gophers. Deer of various kinds are found occasionally and bears still less frequently, and it may be said with truth that hunting in Canada, whether for pleasure or trade, now entails a good deal of hard work.

It is interesting to note how the company dealt with the Indians for so long a time on the friendliest terms. The prosperity of the company depended upon good relations being maintained with them. Probably savagism was never so deftly and delicately stripped of its belongings and laid away to rot as in British Columbia. Never from beginning to end was there a single outbreak or massacre of any importance, save along the sea-board, and these were seldom directed against the resident fur traders. Why was this, when the United States border was everywhere deluged in blood? Surely these Northern nations were naturally as fierce and vindictive as any south of them. The answer is—business. The natives were needed for hunters. They had nothing of which the hospitable European wished to rob them, so their possessions were left for a time unmolested. When the company wanted their lands, as a matter of course they took it, but at first they required only the skins of their wild beasts, and these the natives must secure and bring to them. In early times, rapine and murder along this coast was the normal condition of things. Against every attempt at settlement, the natives fought desperately, and why should they not resist? From time immemorial their fathers had held the land, and the sea was theirs, kindly yielding them food and clothing. They could not ask their gods for more, unless it should be to make them always drunk.

The officers and servants of the Hudson's Bay Company were as much gentlemen by instinct in their treatment of Indians as in their treatment of civilized men and women. The officers of the company had learned to look on these children of the forest as men of like creation and nature as themselves. The frequent hostility of the Indian does not originate in savage malignity, or natural bloodthirstiness, but in righteous retaliation for endless provocations. Unfortunately for the poor savage, in his divinely pre-ordained extinction, it was ordered that he should be often brought into contact with those who sought to save his soul and those who destroyed his body. How much better would it have been if the missionaries had directed their efforts toward improving the hearts and morals of the desperate and brutal border men, the knaves and vagabonds who spent their lives in informing upon and insulting the natives, and upon the first slight appearance of defense or retaliation on the part of the Indian, in slaughtering him? Better a thousand times had the missionaries spent their lives in converting these men, for they needed regeneration far more than did the savages.

Wherever the officers and servants of the Hudson's Bay Company had the country entirely to themselves, there was little trouble with the natives. Their management of them was perfect: They treated them first of all as human creatures, not as wild beasts. They were to them the children, not the enemy,

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of civilization. In their intercourse with them they were humane, in their dealings honest. Offenses were followed by justice and not by revenge. No attempt was made to fasten upon them the religions or moralities of civilization; though gross cruelty and inhumanity among themselves were freely frowned upon, they were let to marry ad libitum, or not to marry at all, and to worship the gods of their creation after their own fashion. But the moment competitive traders came, all this happy state of things was changed. Fiery draughts of intoxication were placed to the lips of the savages, no less by the benevolent and dignified adventurers of England than by the men from the states and the border desperado. Commerce levels all moralities. Whenever even the most bitter rivalry was confined to large, responsible companies, the savage was not much the sufferer; indeed, his importance was often thereby greatly magnified, and the artless aboriginal was by no means slow to make avail of this increased purchasing power of his peltries, but in sections where free trappers and irresponsible border men obtained permanent foothold, rapine, murder and exterminating war were sure to follow.

While treating all foreigners with politeness, and while ever ready to rescue the distressed of any nation, the Hudson's Bay Company was exceedingly jealous of interference in their trade. They would not have their prices changed nor their hunters demoralized if by any possibility they could prevent it. Though ready on the instant to draw, the Hudson's Bay Company were slow to use, their weapons on the natives. The punishment of insolence or other petty offense was to knock the offender down, and the officers, from Governor to clerk, prided themselves on their superior skill in the manly art. However expert the Indians may be at the knife, or spear, or gun, they are invariably taken aback by a white fist on their noses. An offense was seldom allowed to go unpunished, and the company were as ready to do justice as to exact it.

It is a great mistake to fling all aboriginal men and women into one category and damn them as savages. As elsewhere on this planet, there are good Indians and bad Indians, honest men and tender hearted women, as well as thieves and murderers. There are scores of remarkable instances illustrative of the honesty and humanity of the native Indians of British Columbia. So reconciled to civilized supremacy did they become under the just treatment they received, that whereas, at first in this or other regions, white men could traverse the country only in bands of thirty or forty, a single person belonging to the all-powerful fur company, or having its protection, could now go and come at pleasure anywhere in British Columbia, passing in safety through the lands of scores of tribes hostile to each other, as one whose life and property were things sacred. Their nobler nature was easily worked upon. Many of them would scorn to do things which white Christians practice upon one another without remorse of conscience. They loved honor and power. Chinamen and negroes they regarded with supreme contempt. Half-breeds have not proved a success.

Advances made to the Indians for their hunting outfits, or in times of scarcity, were always repaid. It must not be overlooked, however, that it was often absolutely necessary for the company to supply ammunition, fishing gear and many other articles in cases where payment could not be made, in order that hunting might go on. On the other hand, the Indians knew that any

notes they might receive upon the trading posts from peripatetic officers a thousand miles away from headquarters would be honored upon presentation. In former times, for trading purposes, the unit of value was the beaver skin. The price of everything was calculated at so many skins, and they were the sole medium of exchange. In return for the skins, the Indians received pieces of stick prepared in a special manner, each representing a beaver skin and with these they were able to purchase anything they wanted at the company's stores. Later on tokens were substituted, and about 1825 the company established a paper currency. They were known as "Hudson's Bay Blankets," and no fears were ever entertained as to the soundness of the bank.

While the chief concern of the company during all of this time was trade with the Indians, yet they did not lose sight of the fact that civilizing influences were spreading amongst them. Thus, in the middle of the present century, there were in the company's territory nineteen missionary stations of the Church of England, twelve Roman Catholic, four Wesleyan and one Presbyterian, making a total of thirty-six.

The basis of the friendly relations between the company and the Indians was confidence, and the knowledge that the Indians acquired of the white man and his ways during the long administration of the company made the transfer of the territory to Canada comparatively easy when the time for the surrender arrived.

The policy of the company, which has been followed by successive Governments of Canada, has enabled the country to avoid those Indian wars which were of frequent occurrence in the early days of settlement in the western parts of the United States.

The company's main posts in the early days were York Factory, the depot for the Northern Department, on the west shore of the Hudson's Bay, and Moose Factory on James Bay, the headquarters of the Southern Department. Thousands of miles separated the more distant posts from those which may be termed the shipping posts.

The life of many of the officers of the company can be readily imagined. They saw few people of their own kith and kin, or of their own race except at long intervals. There were occasional councils and gatherings at central places, but their visits to civilization were few and far between; in fact, they were more or less out of the world. Letters reached them in many places only once a year and in some places not so often. Newspapers and magazines were many months old when received, and the most important events happened without their knowing anything of them for long afterwards. In the plains where the buffalo were numerous, and in some other districts they lived well, but in British Columbia and the more northern part of the territories, including the Yukon District, the struggle for existence was hard and the living precarious. The officers had plenty of time for reading and for meditation, and the life must have had its attraction, for the officers were devoted to their posts and to their work. The great event of the year was the arrival of the stores and the mails. Canoes, boats or dog trains which brought in the supplies, carried away the proceeds of the year's trading. Most of the company's exports to Europe were then carried in its own vessels by way of Hudson's Bay.

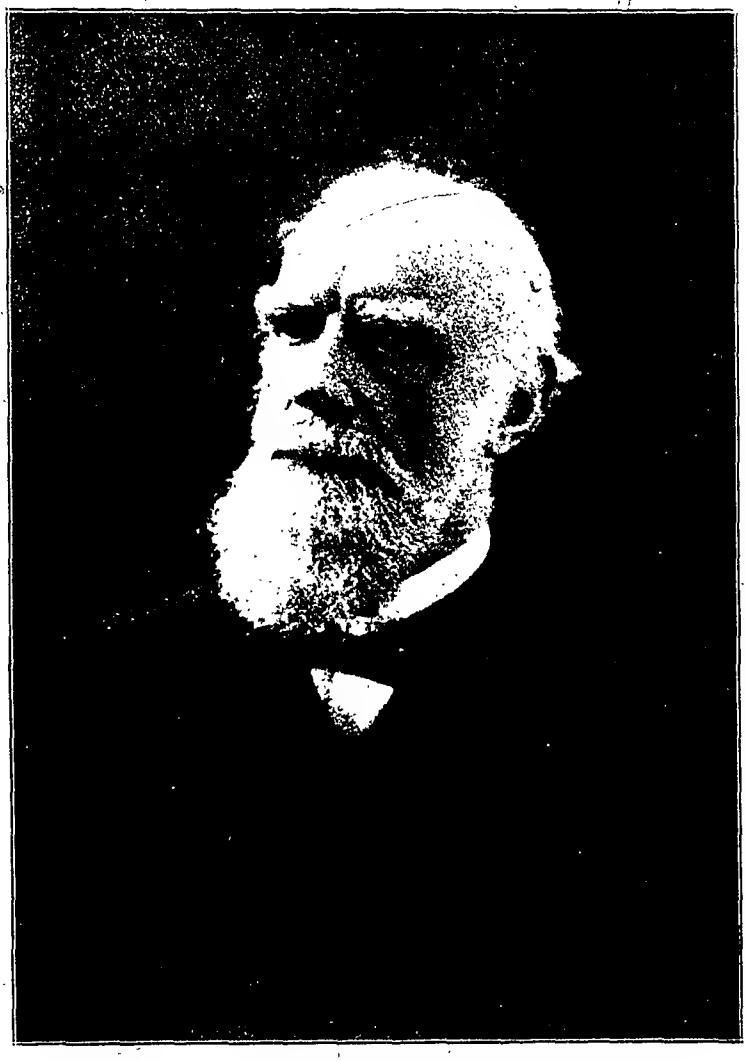
The trading posts of the company were mostly quadrangular forts, supported by tall palisades, flanked by bastians, armed with medium six-pounders

and twelve-pounder cannonades, with cartridges, round shot, grape and canister, being always ready for action; not for mere show, but for use when required, which, fortunately, seldom happened. All around the inside of the palisades was a gallery, the platform of which was about four and one-half feet below the top of the palisades, and at intervals were sockets for mounting blunderbusses on swivels. These were also kept in readiness for action. There was a front gate and a back gate in the palisades, each gateway being ten feet wide and twelve feet in height. The gates were in pairs and about ten inches in thickness, made of stout plank doubled and strongly bolted together. The tops of the palisades were eighteen feet above the ground, and consisted of stout cedar logs fitted closely together. The bastians were usually octagonal, of three stories, with ports and loop-holes, and contained stands of muskets, bayonets and ammunition, ready for use. In each gate was a wicket for ordinary ingress and egress, which was closed to all parties after 9:00 P. M., when the watch for the night was set. The watchman had to walk around the buildings within the stockade once every half hour and then mount the gallery and continue to walk thereon around the fort. "All's well," was called by them every half hour during the night.

The different ordinary movements for the day were regulated by ringing the fort bell at 5:30 A. M. for all hands to turn out. At 6:00 A. M. the work for the day of the different employes was given to them by the officer in charge; at 8:00 A. M. for breakfast; at 9:00 to turn to; at 12:00 M. for dinner; at 1:00 P. M. to resume work; at 6:00 P. M. for supper. The labors of the day then ceased for the operatives, but the clerks were kept at work until 9:00, frequently 10:00 P. M. Strict discipline was enforced. No irregularities were allowed, and all hands, without reference to their special tenets of religion, had to attend service on Sunday morning in the officers' mess room at 10:00 A. M. The service was read by the officer in charge, who though often a Presbyterian and sometimes a Roman Catholic, had to use the Church of England book of common prayer.

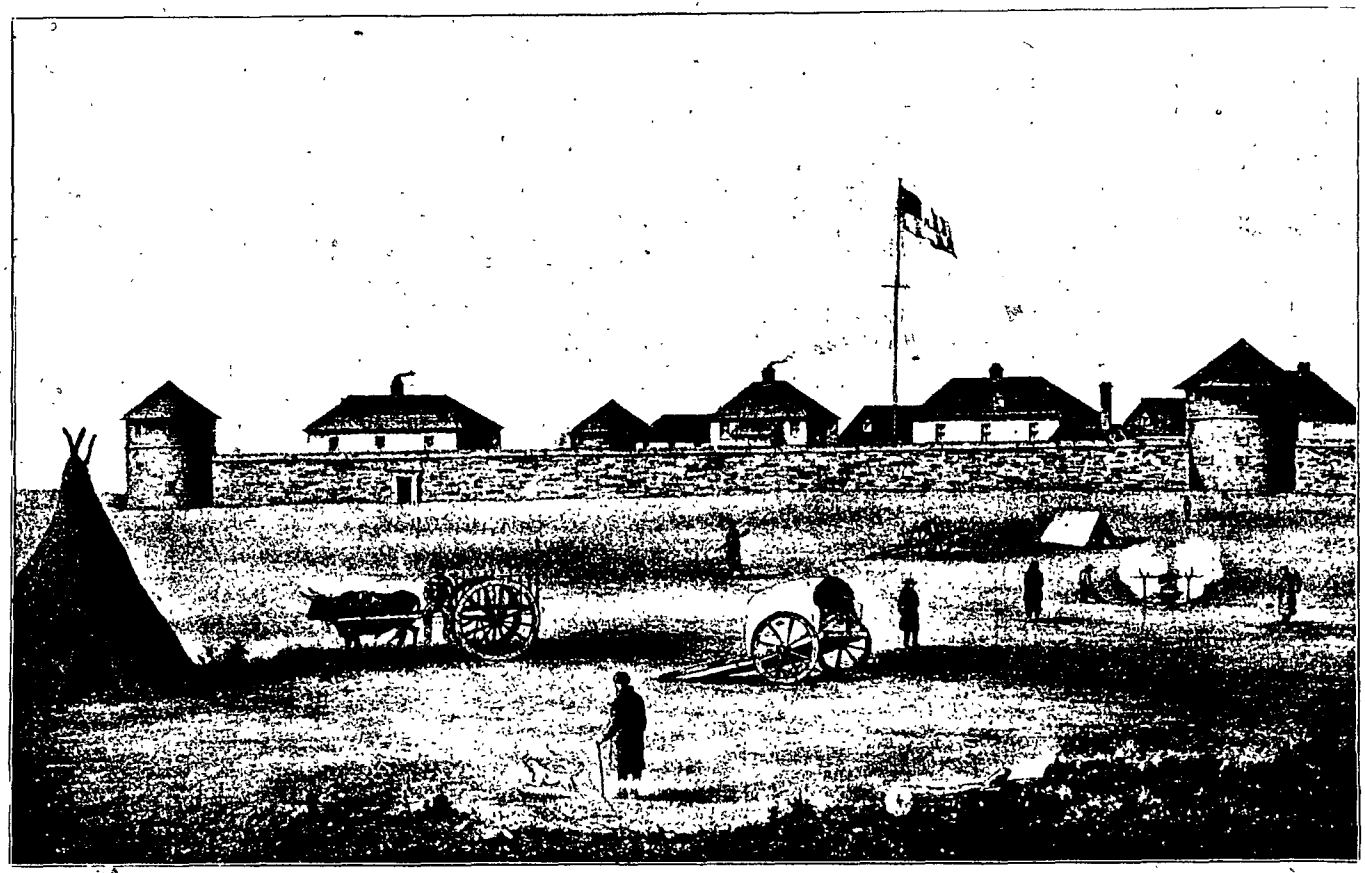
Since the country has been opened up, methods have somewhat changed, although the more distant posts even now remain in a state of isolation.

Communication was maintained between every post in the vast territory and headquarters during the long months of winter by means of the Great Northern Packet, which left Fort Garry annually about the 10th of December. The appliances for the carriage of mail were snow shoes and dog sledges; the latter were two in number, drawn by four dogs each. Upon each sledge was bound a pair of stoutly constructed boxes, measuring about three feet in length by eighteen inches in depth and fourteen inches in width. These wooden mail bags, when properly packed, contained an astonishing amount of written and printed matter. The dogs run at a regular trot, the drivers accompanying them on foot at the rate of about forty miles per day. The frozen channels of the rivers and lakes formed the general roadway and Lake Winnipeg was traversed to Fort Carlton, near the eastern end of the Saskatchewan Valley, the chief center of the winter packet arrangements. Here the entire mail is overhauled and repacked, branch packets being sent off east and west, while the Great Northern packet journeys on to the remote Arctic regions to which it is consigned. From the morning when the packet left the office at Fort Garry to the evening when the solitary dog train, last of many, drags the same packet,



DONALD A. SMITH, FIRST LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL.

The Present Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company



A VIEW OF OLD FORT GARRY.

now reduced to a tiny bundle, into the enclosure of La Pierre's house at Fort Yukon, more than one hundred nights have been passed in the great Northern forest; over three thousand miles have been traversed; a score of different dog trains have hauled it, sending off at long intervals branch dog packets to the right and left.

It was mid-winter when it started; it arrives just as the sunshine of mid-May is beginning to carry a faint whisper of coming spring to the valley of the Upper Yukon. In former days, all excess in the amount of mail matter transmitted through the winter packets, was so jealously guarded against that the carriage of newspapers was disallowed, with the single exception of an annual file of the Montreal Gazette.

There is very little difference in the bulk of the fur trade, although its distribution has naturally varied a good deal. Winnipeg is the great collecting and distributing center for the North and Northwest. The furs from that region are dispatched thence to Montreal. The supplies for the same district are also arranged through Winnipeg. Victoria and Vancouver are the depots for the British Columbia trade. The company's posts in Eastern Canada are supplied by the way of Montreal. Canoe journeys and dog trains are not much in vogue now except in the more inaccessible districts. The railway plays an important part in the carriage of the trade of the company, and there are also steamers on the lakes and rivers in the far North where they can be utilized.

It has already been stated that the Hudson's Bay Company was established principally for the purpose of trading furs with the Indians, which were exchanged for commodities of European produce and manufacture, but the rivalry with other companies resulted in the exploration of the territories under its control and compelled its officers to go out and look for furs instead of waiting for the furs to be brought to them and in organizing posts in different parts of the territory. This competition resulted in good to the Empire. The names of many of the employes of the company are perpetuated in the rivers and lakes that are found in this vast territory.

It is not too much to say that the fur traders were the pioneers of civilization in the northwest. They undertook the most fatiguing journeys with the greatest pluck and fortitude. They explored the country and kept it for the British. For many years Alaska was leased by the Hudson's Bay Company from Russia and it will be thus seen that the company obtained a footing over an extent of territory which the original concessionaires never dreamt of, as their territory was bounded by the three great oceans to the east, west and north.

The enormous extent of the territory over which the Hudson's Bay Company carried on its trade and throughout which depots and posts were established, can scarcely be comprehended at a merely cursory glance. From Pembina on the Red River to Fort Anderson on the Mackenzie is as great a distance as from London to Mecca. The space between the company's post at Sault Ste. Marie and Fort Simpson on the Pacific measures more than 2,500 geographical miles. From the King's Post to the Pelly banks is farther than from Paris to Samarcand. The area of country under its immediate influence was about 4,500,000 square miles, or more than one-third greater than the whole extent of Europe.

Mackenzie River.

It might be said that the company did not encourage settlement or colonization. That statement may have an element of truth in it, although, as a matter of fact, it inaugurated the Selkirk settlement which was organized and carried out largely under its auspices. Of course, the fur trade and settlement could not go on side by side. On the other hand, until the country was made accessible, colonization on any large scale was not possible or practicable. Settlers could not get there without much difficulty even for many years after the transfer of the territory took place, or get their produce away. Before that time the difficulties were even greater. Until the different provinces of Canada became united and were themselves in position to administer the country and provide it with the necessary means of communication, the opening up of its resources were almost an impossibility; but the Hudson's Bay Company, as already mentioned, did not stand in the way of the interests of the Empire when the proper time arrived. It was simply a physical impossibility for that large territory in Western Canada to be developed to any great extent until communication was opened by railway lines, and progress in all lines has been rapid since the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1885.

The history of the Hudson's Bay Company since the amalgamation of the Northwest with the Dominion, is no longer than of a powerful trading corporation holding sovereign authority over vast regions, but it remains a record of steady work and enterprise and endurance, and great financial profit to its shareholders. The company have done much to assist the authorities in the general work of organizing the machinery of government, suppressing lawlessness and effecting satisfactory treaties with the Indian tribes. Its commanding influence with a large portion of the settlers and with the Indian tribes was always at the service of the Dominion for the purpose of strengthening and securing Canadian authority, and its officers, on many occasions, seem to have rendered valuable aid in this respect.

The company has by no means ceased, however, to be the largest fur trading company in the world, and its annual sales in London, held each January and March, are as important as ever, and attract, as they did formerly, buyers from all parts of the world.

The posts of the company extend from the rocky shores of Labrador to the western boundary of Canada on the Alaskan frontier of the United States, and throughout the whole of this immense extent of country it largely controls the trade of the natives.

The aborigines, whether Chippewayans, Loucheux, Crees, Salteaus, or Eskimos, still look to the company for their chief means of support, and the officer of the Hudson's Bay Company in the far interior is still, as for 225 years, the practical governor of the district under their command.

There are no fewer than 126 stations at which this active fur trade is still carried on, while in addition to this there are many wintering stations or outposts, which are changed according to the circumstances or conditions of the trade.

As already mentioned, after the transfer of the country to the Dominion Government, the Hudson's Bay Company had ceased to be a governing institution. It became simply a private corporation, with a capital of £1,700,000, and with an interest in one-twentieth of the land within the fertile belt, and

with trading stations scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the United States boundary to the delta of the vast Mackenzie River, where it enters into the Arctic Ocean. Under the new conditions, the officers include chief factors and factors; chief traders and junior chief traders.

The year of 1881 was a memorable one in regard to old Fort Garry, located at Winnipeg, as it saw its final vacation by the Hudson's Bay Company and the occupation in its stead of the present premises, which stand on the corner of York and Main streets, and comprise great retail and wholesale stores, making one of the handsomest blocks in the whole Northwest. The historical environment of this old fort and its many buildings were of great interest, as nearly every event of importance in connection with the Northwest has been discussed or carried on within its four walls.

The company still remain the great fur traders of the world, and they are to-day also the great storekeepers of the great West, they having immense department stores at all of the principal towns in Central and Western Canada, and with their many steamboat lines and large flour mills they are, in a modern sense, a most active organization.

It has been possible in this short article to only give the merest outline of the history of this vast organization, and it is hoped that some day a complete and full history may be undertaken by some one, as such a volume would be as interesting as any of the historical romances which have been popular in recent years.

It has been urged against the Hudson's Bay Company that it obstructed the development of the great Northwest. On the contrary, it was engaged for two centuries in important pioneer work. Any corporation of the kind, with exclusive privileges and rights, was bound to make enemies, and whatever may have been the faults of the company, history will recall that it explored a vast territory, prepared the way for its settlement and colonization, and fulfilled a most important part in the history of Canada.

THE SHUSHWAP CONSPIRACY.

The Shushwap Conspiracy of 1846 may be cited to show to what resources the officers of the company had to go in order to keep out of trouble with the Indians. Fort Kamloop was the capital of the Thomson River District, bordering on New Caledonia, and was one of the oldest establishments of the company in the Northwest coast region, dating back to the days of the dashing Northwest Company, when, with posts planted side by side, the two great rival associations fought for the favor of the savages and for the skins of their wild beasts. Seven tribes traded at this post when it was first built, namely—the gentle Atnah; the lively Kootenai, the chivalrous Okanagan; the surly Similkameen; the fierce, vindicative Teet; the treacherous Nicoutamuch, besides the always hospitable and friendly Kamloop. All these nations were members of the family Shushwap. These, however, were not all regular visitors, nor permanent in their patronage. The simple-minded and ingenuous savage knew every trick of the trade and where opposition was, there were gathered his peltries.

John Tod reigned at Fort Kamloop in the spring of 1846, and his subjects were not numerous if we deduct the savages, the bears and the beavers.

There were with him during this time, besides the dusky mother of his three dusky little ones, only half a dozen men and a half-breed boy. Notable now and for many years afterwards throughout these parts, was a white-washed savage, a Shushwap, likewise a king in his way, christened by the company, "Saint Paul," and by the Catholic Priest "Jean Baptiste Lolo." The Shushwaps frequented Kamloop almost as much as the lake that bears their name. Their passion was finery; they loved it more than liquor. Indeed, before the advent of the miners, beside whose mud-colored clothes the bright vestures of the natives shown like the rainbow on a thunder-laden sky, the native tribes did not wallow in drunkenness like their relatives along the coast, but rather affected horses and a wardrobe in which were conspicuous caps with gay ribbons, scarlet leggings and red sashes, and for the women bright colored skirts and gaudy handkerchiefs for the head.

Although Lolo had been thus doubly baptized, he was not yet wholly clean. There was much of the aboriginal Adam still in him, yet he was always ready to serve the God of the fur company or of the missionaries, whenever he could make it pay. Everything being equal, however, he preferred his own. In physique, he was large, with fine, bold features, a Roman nose with dilated nostrils being prominent. His black eyes displayed a melancholy cunning rather than ferocity, though at times they were restless and piercing. His authority among his people was absolute, and for twenty years before Tod's time, he had lived on friendly terms with the fur traders and for a dozen years thereafter, his rusty old body still enjoyed the blessings of sunlight.

In the band of three hundred horses belonging to the fort, Lolo had long coveted one of them. He would give anything for that horse, endure any hardship, kill any person. Tod was equally obstinate in his refusal to part with it. The savage should not have the horse; second best must suffice the ruler of red skins. It was the custom every year to send a party from Kamloop to the Popayou, seventy-six miles distant on Fraser River, to procure for the year's sustenance salmon there caught and cured by the natives. It had been agreed this year that Lolo should lead the party for the mutual benefit of the two sovereignties. The second night after the departure of the expedition, just as the chief trader was about retiring, a knock was heard at the door. Besides himself and family and the half-breed boy, there was not a soul about the place. Every man was at the expedition, and as the country was at peace, even the fort gates were not fastened at night.

"Come in," exclaimed Tod.

Slowly the door opens a few inches until the black eyes of Lolo were seen glistening at the aperture. Though amazed beyond measure and fearful lest some misfortune had happened the party, Tod was Indian enough never to be thrown so far out of balance as to manifest surprise at anything. He continued to busy himself as if the unwelcome apparition at the door was but part of his preparations for bed. Left to himself, the Shushwap chief pushed open the door and slowly entered. For several minutes he stood bolt upright in the middle of the room, until at length Tod motioned him to a seat beside the table and shoved toward him pipe and tobacco.

"Your family will be glad to see you," Tod finally remarked, wondering more than ever what had happened to the party, and why he had returned,

and cursing in his heart the savage conventionalism which debased a man from any manifestation of curiosity.

"The sorrel horse I spoke to you about," replied the chief. "I should like to have that horse, Mr. Tod."

"The river has risen a little since yesterday," observed Tod.

"For twenty years I have followed the fortunes of the Hudson's Bay Company," continued Lolo. "I have shared my store of food with them, warned them of dangers, attended them in perils, and never before have I been denied a request."

"Fill your pipe," said Tod.

"Alas! my wives and little ones," still sighed the savage. "Though I am old and not afraid to die, they are young and helpless. What would become of them should this evil befall? Where will they go?"

"What the devil is the matter?" now blurted Tod, thrown suddenly back on Lolo's gibberish from high forest reticence to the conventional speech of christendom. "Who talks of dying? Where are the men and why have you returned? Speak."

"Matter enough," answered the chief, who now changed his tone from that of whining lament to one of surly concern. "When near our destination, we met a young chief of the Atnahs, who, drawing me aside, informed me that his father, who is a friend of mine, had entered into a conspiracy with the chiefs of several other Shushwap tribes for the extermination of the fur traders. They had agreed to open hostilities by the capture of the annual Kamloop party just as it reached the Fraser, and this warning was given me that I might save myself and mine."

"Where are the men and horses?"

"I hid them as well as I could behind some bushes a little off the trail and told them I was going to hunt a better camping ground and let the animals graze there until I returned. I told them nothing about the conspiracy."

"Well, go to your family now and let me think about it."

And so the chief departed. Tod was greatly puzzled as to whether this was a trick on the part of Lolo to get the horse. There had never been trouble with the natives in this vicinity and there was now no provocation that he knew of. And yet it was a long ride and for so useless a question. Of course, if there was danger of an attack, the chief should not have left the party. As he thought it over, the trader's suspicion increased. While deep in these considerations as to what was best for him to do, Mr. Tod again saw the door move on its hinges and Lolo's head thrust in at the opening.

"Will you not let me have the horse Mr. Tod?"

"No, damn you, go home, and if you say horse to me again, I will break every bone in your body."

For the trader's patience had finally forsaken him. He was now almost sure that Lolo's only object was to get the horse and that the conspiracy story was false. Nevertheless, the party must be looked after immediately. How should he manage it? Lolo was thunderstruck at the bold tone in which Tod had denied his last request for the horse. The Indian well knew of the truth of the conspiracy. He knew, or at least he supposed, his fidelity and services would be of the first importance to the trader, isolated as he was and alone in the midst of numerous organized and bloodthirsty enemies. Surely the horse

would not be a feather's weight to him now, reasoned Lolo, when all the horses, the fort and the property in it, wife and children and life itself—for the chief well knew the trader would not run away from danger, and if he did not, would certainly be killed—were in such jeopardy. Before the door had closed on the retreating form of the savage the trader had made up his mind what to do. Calling the half-breed boy, he ordered him to saddle two of the fleetest horses in the corral. He explained in as few words as possible to his wife and wrote a general statement of the case for headquarters at Victoria, in case he should never return. And shortly after midnight, while Lolo was asleep at home, the chief trader and his boy were on the trail for Fraser River, galloping over the ground as fast as their horses could carry them. Tod thought that the only safe way to do was to act as though the report was true, and reaching his men the next noon, he gave them immediate orders to follow behind him at about three hundred yards, to march when he marched and stop when he stopped. By 9 o'clock they approached a small plane enclosed in thick brushwood, bordering on the river. Behind the bushes, on the northern side of the opening and close to the river, he saw a large band of armed and painted savages. No women or children were among them, which circumstance, beyond peradventure, signified mischief. Already they had discovered him and were moving about excitedly. Lolo was right, and the chief trader vowed that if he survived that day, the chief would have the horse. But what was he to do? He had not ten men all told, Canadians and Indians, and here were three hundred arrayed against him. Nor were they a foe to be despised, these powerful Shushwaps, any one of whom could handle a rifle as well as any white man. How was he to cope with them? Brute force was certainly out of the question; brute courage here was powerless, and if intellect was to be king, how was white cunning to circumvent the red? The men with the horses in the rear had by this time approached the opening, had seen the savages and had witnessed their war-like demonstrations. They knew now why their leader had so unexpectedly appeared among them and had been so singularly preoccupied the night before.

Tod told his men to fall back, and that if things went wrong with him, to make the best of their way back to the fort. Turning full front upon the glowering savages, Tod put full spur to his horse. The battle begins. It is one man against three hundred. As he rushes on toward them, they raise their guns. Tod does not flinch or slacken speed, but quickly drawing sword and pistol, he holds them aloft in one hand, and with the other lifts high his gun above his head. For an instant only the murderous trinkets flash the sun's light into the eyes of the astonished multitude; then the rider hurls them all ahead upon the plane. Seizing the reins, which had hitherto lain neglected, the rider next turns his attention to feats of horsemanship. With head erect, eyes flashing and mane flowing, the white mare prances to the right, thence to the left, and after describing a half circle, charges into their very midst. Very strange, and no doubt, very silly, a cavalry captain would say. Why did they not kill him? So, indeed, the cavalry captain would have been killed and all his men. Why did not those fire who raised their guns? Curiosity. Thus the interested antelope will stand and be shot. They wished to see what the white man would do next. Hundreds they had killed before, and could achieve a butchery any day, but they could not have every day an honorable chief trader upon his

best mettle before them for their amusement. Well was it that Tod understood his role and had the coolness and courage to play it, for the least mistake was death. There sat the smiling Scotchman upon his panting white steed, amidst the thickest of them.

"What is all this?" demanded the chief trader. "What is it that you wish to do?"

"We want to see Lolo," they replied. "Where is Lolo? Why came you here?"

"Ah, then you have not heard the news? Lolo is at home, poor fellow."

"News? What news? No, we have heard no news," they replied, again forgetting their bloody purpose, engulfed in curiosity.

"I am so sorry for you, my friends. The small-pox is upon us; the terrible, terrible small-pox. It was brought from Walla Walla by Okanagan."

They well knew what the small-pox was and that it raged in Walla Walla and on the lower Columbia. Worse than death they feared the scourge. The bare idea of it was horrible to them.

"Aye, the dreaded disease is here," continued Tod in deep sepulchral tones. "That is why I am come. I came to tell you. I came to save you. You are my friends, my brothers. You bring me furs. I give you blankets and guns wherewith to get food for your families, and I love you. But you must not come to Kamloop until I give you notice, else you will die. See, I have brought you medicine, for I would not see you lying scattered on the bank like yonder salmon, rotting, rotting. Ah, indeed I would not."

Flown to remotest regions were all thoughts of murder. Kill him, their best, their truest friend? They had never intended such a thing. Not more than ten minutes were occupied in achieving this wonderful revolution of feeling and the chief trader ended by vaccinating the entire tribe and being on the very best terms with the savages.

The following is a list of the forts established by the company in British Columbia, and shows how thoroughly they have established themselves in the mining districts of the West. A list of the different governors of the company is also given, which no doubt will be of interest from a historical standpoint:

1784—Kodiak.
1798-1801—Sitka.
1805—Rocky Mountain Portage, Fort McLeod, Clatsop.
1806—St. James, Fraser.
1807—George, Henry, Kootenai.
1811—Astoria, Thompson, Flathead House, Fort Sheppard, Okanagan, Rocky Mountain House, Spokane House.
1813—Kamloops.
1815—Walla Walla.
1821—Alexandria, Chilcotin.
1822—Babine.
1824-5—Vancouver.
1825-6—Colville.
1826—Connolly.
1827—Langley.
1829—Williammette Settlement.
1831—(Old) Fort Simpson.
1832—Umqua, Redoubt St. Dionysius.
1833—McLaughlin, Nisqually, Champoeg, Hall, Simpson.
1834—Fort Yukon.
1835—Essington, Boise, Rupert.
1837—Cowlitz.
1838—Dease.
1834-40—Stickine.
1840—Taku, Frances.
1842—Pelly Banks.
1843—Victoria.
1847—Hope.
1848—Fort Selkirk (mouth of the Yukon), Yale.
1852—Nanaimo.
1868—Fort Tongass (Alaska).
1882—Juneau (Alaska).

His Highness Prince Rupert..1670–1683
His Royal Highness James, Duke of York (afterwards King James II).....1683–1685
John, Earl of Marlborough (afterwards Duke of Marlborough).....1685–1691
Sir Stephen Evance, Kt.....1691–1696
The Rt. Hon. Sir William Trumbull.....1696–1700
Sir Stephen Evance, Kt.....1700–1712
Sir Bibye Lake, Bart.....1712– 743
Benjamin Pitt.....1743–1746
Thomas Knapp.....1746–1750
Sir Atwell Lake, Bart.....1750–1760
Sir William Baker, Kt.....1760–1770
Bibye Lake.....1770–1782
Samuel Wegg.....1782–1799
Sir James Winter Lake, Bart..1799–1807
William Mainwaring.....1807–1812
Joseph Berens, Jr.....1812–1822
Sir John Henry Pelly, Bart...1822–1852
Andrew Colville.....1852–1856
John Shepherd.....1856–1858
Henry Hulse Berens.....1858–1863
Rt. Hon. Sir Edmund Walker Head, Bart, K. C. B.....1863–1868
Rt. Hon. The Earl of Kimberley.....1868–1869
Rt. Hon. Sir Stafford H. Northcote, Bart. M. P. (Earl of Iddesleigh).....1869–1874
Rt. Hon. George Joachim Goschen, M. P.....1874–1880
Eden Colville.....1880–1889
Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G. C. M. G.....1889–1898

GOLD DISCOVERIES OF CALIFORNIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

All the world knows that James Wilson Marshall, by discovering gold January 24th, 1848, in California, while hunting for a site for a saw mill, stirred the financial centers of the world and awakened in the breasts of thousands, the fires of cupidity.

Fort Victoria was then the nearest and most accessible point outside of San Francisco where miners could obtain their outfits. True, they might have gone to Vancouver and did to some extent, but at the latter post the goods had been raised in price by reason of United States duties, and the stock was likewise daily diminishing there, while the supplies were constantly increasing at Fort Victoria. The custom house regulations at San Francisco were then not of the strictest, especially in regard to miners' outfits, while at that point articles not immediately desired could scarcely be sold at all; such goods as were in demand and of limited supply bore exorbitant prices. Hence, many miners, particularly during the winter when they could not work their placers, found it more profitable to take a passage on a sailing vessel for the North coast and there lay in their spring supply. It was a strange spectacle thus so suddenly presented to the staid officers of the Hudson's Bay Company, these curious characters on their singular errand, springing from so miraculous an event, and it is no wonder that the methodical tratlers were somewhat confused by it.

"These rough looking miners," writes Finlayson, who was an officer of the Hudson's Bay Company at Victoria, "landed here from their vessels, which entered the harbor early in 1849. I took them first to be pirates and ordered our men to prepare for action. I, however, entered into conversation with them, and finding who they were, was satisfied as to their friendship for us. They had leather bags, full of gold nuggets, which they offered to me in

exchange for goods. At this time I had never seen native gold in my life and was doubtful whether to take it or not. Having heard about pure gold being malleable, I took one of the pieces to our blacksmith shop, and our smith and his assistant hammered away at it on the anvil, and finding that it answered the description by flattening out as thin as a wafer, I offered to take it at $11 per ounce, in exchange for goods. This offer was accepted readily, and as I could not go back from my word, the trade opened on this basis. I would then have been better satisfied had they complained of the low rate, but no complaints were made. I therefore thought I had made a mistake. I traded, however, all they had, and was doubtful about the correctness of the transaction until the express I sent to the Columbia River to headquarters came back with the intelligence that the gold was satisfactory and also the rate at which I had traded it. Other factors followed, so that we had a good remittance of gold that year to send to England, in addition to our furs."

The Hudson's Bay Company on and in the vicinity of the Lower Columbia were in a position to derive great advantages from this gold discovery. Not so great indeed as if they had held their post at Yerka Buena, yet their profits were very greatly swelled thereby. Anderson was appointed to the Colville district in 1848. "It was there," he writes, "that I first got notice of the discovery of gold in California," in a private letter to Mr. Douglas who had just returned from a trip to the Sandwich Islands. Little excitement, however, arose from this communication on the part of anyone and in fact Mr. Douglas himself seemed half incredulous of the report. A few months, however, served to dissipate this belief, and before the autumn of 1849, the whole country was ablaze. "I myself felt fearful, on my return from Langley in August of that year, lest every man should leave me. By prudent management, however, and possessing, I flatter myself, the confidence of my men, I contrived to confirm them in their allegiance and retain their services until their contracts were fully expired, a period of some two years. In this respect I was exceptionally fortunate, for while my men some thirty in number, adhered to me faithfully, the other posts lower down the river, including Fort Vancouver, in which about one hundred and fifty men had been stationed, were almost deserted and Indian laborers were hard to supply the deficiency.

It is almost impossible to realize to the mind the intense excitement which at times prevailed. Gold appeared to be almost, as it were a drug in the market and more than one of the French-Canadian servants who had left Vancouver, under the circumstances mentioned, returned the following spring with accumulations varying from thirty to forty thousand dollars. It is needless, however, to add that the large amount of treasure thus collected with so much facility, united with the habits of extravagance which the unexpected possession of wealth engendered, speedily disappeared. The men who had thus dissipated their possessions, sanguine of their ability to replace it with equal facility as before, returned to California only to find that the field of their operations was fully occupied by others who in the meanwhile had flocked in and that their chance was gone."

Mr. Anderson would have been more yet confounded had he known that at that moment, in the very district he was then superintending, this precious metal was so abundant as some day to cause a stir which should rank among the prominent mining excitements of the period.

It is believed that gold was first discovered in British Columbia in 1852 by an Indian on Thomson River, near Nicommen. Having no vessel, he was quaffing from the stream, when he perceived a shining pebble, which he picked up, and it proved to be gold. Gold was found in paying quantities near the mouth of the Thomson River in 1857, and it is thought that the exaggerated reports of this discovery reaching California was the cause of the great rush of 1858. The Hudson's Bay Company exported three hundred ounces, from October 6th, 1857, to the end of the year, and it was supposed to be all that was carried out of the country.

It is almost impossible to trace for a certainty the origin of the gold excitement of that year, but it was noised abroad that gold abounds in British Columbia, and nothing more was wanted by the world to set men everywhere studying their maps to learn something of this new and comparatively unknown land. In the blind and hopeful way of the gold prospectors, it seems to have been anticipated that the richness of the sands of the Fraser River would be found in same proportion to the size of that river. Doubtless many who made this venture reasoned more accurately that the discovery was simply important in a degree proportionate to the area of the new country to be opened by the mines and made accessible by the valley of the Fraser. Untold auriferous wealth in connection with the great commercial and agricultural region of British Columbia, with its European climate, though predestined for the discovery under the developments of time, with the necessary conditions thereto, justified these hopes, without rewarding the energy and enterprise of the adventurers of 1858.

In California, the seaport of San Francisco was almost in the gold mines. The mines were near the sea, with no intervening difficulties. A different kind of test was in reserve for the mining industry in the North, where the lofty Sierra and 500 miles of distance and much geographical and geological exploration had been undergone, with trials and failures, before all the conditions of general prosperity to miners and traders could be fulfilled. Nor was it all misfortune that was in store for those who ventured blindly in search of profitable gold deposits, for how could the knowledge be obtained without chance to open the door, or action to seize the prize under impossible conditions?

California, Oregon and Washington were now rapidly losing their population. Men of all classes abandoned their occupations in the interior and followed the crowd to San Francisco. It was not strange that the first fair opportunity would be seized by the journals of San Francisco to stem the current by giving to the Northern regions, under the guise of the mistake of the Fraser mines, the worst possible name. The whole of California in April, 1858, was in a ferment. Business in the interior was deranged and in many places broken up. Hundreds, too impatient to wait for the steamers, mounted horses and hastened over with them, especially from the Northern counties of California, making the distance in eighteen days. During April and May the rumors, more or less fabulous, of the gold discoveries in the North, continued to circulate throughout California, Oregon and Washington Territories. Vessels left San Francisco carrying three times the number allowed by law, and about 23,000 persons went from San Francisco by sea and 8,000 overland, making at least 30,000 from this one point. It is said that never in the history of migrations of men has there been such a rush, and so sudden and so vast.

At first the crowds that came to Victoria, went from there to Whatcom, under the belief that the great town of the North would spring up on the main land. They brought plenty of money to invest in land and other speculations, as much as two million dollars being at one time deposited in Victoria. The only safe in the country was owned by the Hudson's Bay Company, so that the money passed through the hands of Mr. Finlayson, the treasurer of the company. It was presented in sacks, which Finlayson refused to receive unless they were sealed with the names of the owners, as it was impracticable to count the money. When any one wanted money he would take out his bag, get what he needed and return it. Not an instance ever occurred of complaint.

This army of gold seekers that besieged Fort Victoria threatened the supremacy of the Crown, as well as the stability of the territorial claims of the Hudson's Bay Company on the Pacific Coast. The miners, 3,000 of whom arrived at Victoria in one day, encamped in tents around the fort.

In regard to the general orderly character of the pilgrims, there is cumulative testimony from all sides, notwithstanding the fact that the jealousy and unreasonable exactions of the Hudson's Bay Company, practically in charge of the government, met with the strongest opposition and called forth the unqualified animadversions of the miners. In order to quiet the difficulties thus arising, and to remove the restrictions against the immigration of Americans, John Nugent was finally sent to the county as Commissioner and Consular Agent for the United States. The stringency of the law, united with the good sense of the miners, had an effect to deter the many doubtful characters that flocked into the country in the hope of obtaining rich spoils from the industrious and unsuspicious, and forced them to quit the field. Nearly all the Californian emigration was landed in Victoria in consequence of Governor Douglas refusing to grant permits and mining licenses elsewhere.

From the middle of April, 1858, for several months, while the excitement was daily increasing, not only in Victoria, but in San Francisco, the halcyon days of '49 appeared to have come again, and fresh dreams of wealth floated through the minds of the multitudes. Between the 5th and 20th of June, more than six thousand prospectors were landed at Victoria. The return of the steamers to San Francisco was awaited by crowds impatient for news. The "Panama" and "Pacific" had returned to San Francisco on the 5th and 8th of June, from which time there was no fresh intelligence from the mines until the 19th, when the "Republic" returned several days earlier than was expected, amidst intense excitement along the water front and at the hotels. When on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of June, the steamers "Republic," "Oregon" and "Commodore" sailed respectively, there were twenty other sailing vessels lying at the wharves announced for immediate dispatch.

The absorbing topic of the time was the solution of the problem calling for all the energies that were developed by the stirring days of the excitement—how to transport supplies to the front. It soon became obvious to have this done in the cheapest and most expeditious manner. Some returning miners were guided by Indians from Lilloet through Harrison Lake and River and over the Douglas portages, where a pack road leading into the interior could be constructed at comparatively moderate cost. In order to open a trail along this route the Hudson's Bay Company hit upon the following expedient: There were five hundred miners at Victoria on their way to the mines. It was

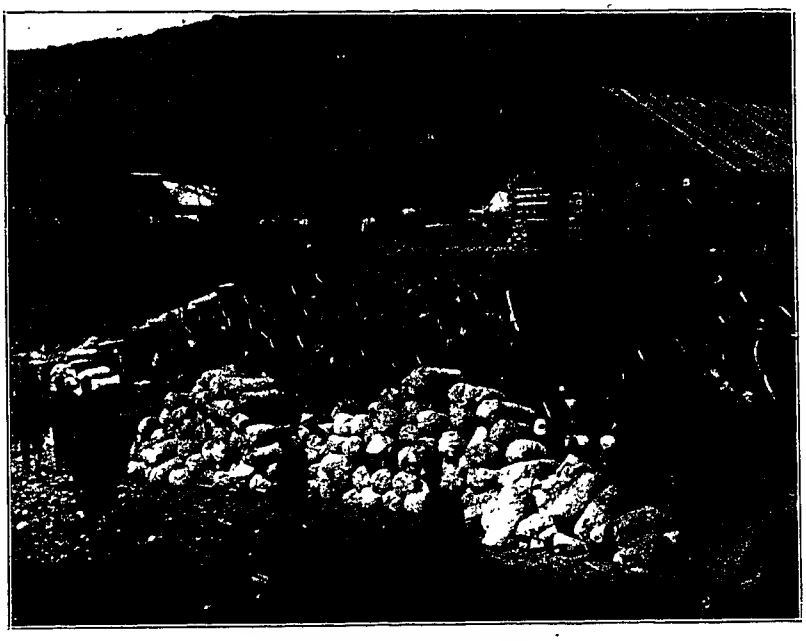
proposed that in consideration of a deposit of $25.00 by each person accepting the terms, and an agreement to work upon the train until it was finished, the Hudson's Bay Company should transport them to the point of commencement on Harrison River, feed them, and at the conclusion of the work furnish them there with supplies at Victoria prices, or return the money, if desired. The length of trail to be opened, including the lakes, was seventy miles. No difficulty was experienced in getting the miners to accede to this proposition. The money was paid in and the work executed under the arrangement. It was a very pretty by-play between credit, co-operation and labor.

Nearly all of the provisions on the Fraser above the canon in the summer of 1858, with the exception of the little packed on the backs of the miners and Indians, was brought there from the upper Columbia by the half-breed traders of the Colville country. Between the Gulf of Georgia and the interior plateau there were only trails, and in their competition for popular favor the partisans of each declared the other impracticable. That from the Whatcom, striking the Fraser at Smess, twenty-five miles above Langley, was subsequently used for local travel from Puget Sound. The movements from Oregon to the Fraser mines went east of the Cascade Mountains, striking the Fraser near the mouth of Thomson River. Though an effort was made in Minnesota, where the Fraser excitement was also felt, to inaugurate travel by way of St. Paul and the Saskatchewan River, none but trappers and explorers of the hardier sort ventured the route till a later date, the current from the Atlantic States flowing through the established channels to Oregon and California. Two notable inland expeditions from Oregon may be cited as examples of numerous others. Owing to the dangers from hostile Indians, it was necessary to organize and to travel in force.

David McLaughlin's company made their rendezvous at Walla Walla early in July, 1858. In ten or twelve days, one hundred and sixty men were gathered, all well armed with revolvers, ninety rifles and twenty-five other heavy arms being in the party. They had about three hundred and fifty horses and mules. Before starting, Mr. Wolfe, a trader from Colville, arrived at Walla Walla and informed them of the hostile attitude of the natives along the proposed route, advising a thorough military organization. Four divisions were accordingly formed and placed under the command of James McLaughlin, Hambright, Wilson and another. The Walla Wallas, Palouses, Okanagans and other tribes were hostile. The party passed through the Grand Coulee to Okanagan. On their way over the Columbia plains, a German who lagged behind was seized by the savages and killed. Two or three days' travel after crossing the Columbia, near the boundary line on the east side of Okanagan River, the whole party was attacked by the Indians in force, posted on a hill behind rude fortifications on each side of the road where they had to pass through a canon. McLaughlin discovered an Indian's head peering over a rock before the firing began. The men took promptly to their work and fought till night. None of the animals stampeded, but were retired in good order with the trains to the plateau below. While the riflemen continued after night-fall in possession of the ground facing the Indians, a detachment prepared rafts to cross the river, the intention being to flank the defenses and formidable fastnesses which the Indians had evidently prepared for them.

Hurley, Evans and Rice, all three Californians, were killed, and seven

others wounded but recovered. In the night the Indians set fire to the grass, and the gold-hunters set counter-fires, without either of them succeeding in burning the other out. Next morning the white men proceeded to bury their dead, and discovered that the Indians had abandoned their stronghold. It had about a hundred breastworks, each made to shelter one Indian, and was occupied at the time of the attack by eighty savages. Two or three days after, the party was again attacked on the west side of the Okanagan River. A hundred mounted warriors rode down upon them, trying to separate the company from their animals; their purpose was anticipated and prevented. After some further trouble and parley they made a peace with the hostile tribe, the Okanagans, and the gold hunters continued their march without delay. Notwithstanding the peace assented to, immediately afterward sixty head of Wolfe's cattle were stolen by the Indians, and a detachment of McLaughlin's men surprised two



Soldiers Embarking on "Strathcona at Glennaro"

of them engaged in jerking the beef from the slaughtered cattle. They were taken along as prisoners, but at this juncture Chief Trader McDonald, from Fort Colville, came up with a train bound for Hope, and at his request the Indians were discharged. The same Indians afterwards robbed a Spanish packer who had been left in the rear attending to his animals, and the savages, with hostile and thieving intent, continued to follow them to a point within three days' march of Thompson River. They came upon that stream twelve miles above its mouth.

Joel Palmer and thirty-five others, among them P. H. Lewis, went to the Frazer mines from Portland with wagons, also following the inside or plateau route. The company encamped at the Dalles, and departed thence in July, driving their own teams all the way through to the Thompson. There were nine teams, each consisting of three or four yoke of oxen, the majority

of them belonging to Palmer. Four 'boys' from Yreka, California, were the co-operative owners of one of the teams. Provisions constituted the cargo, three thousand pounds to the wagon. The route was by the way of Wallula and Okanagan to Kamloop.

Steamer loads came from California to Portland and fitted out at that place for the inside route. Companies of four hundred and five hundred men, accompanied by pack trains, moving more rapidly than was possible for the wagons without a road, overtook and passed Palmer's train on the way. The latter, under Palmer's experienced generalship, found occasion to make use of all the arts of travel in the form of the organized semi-military expeditions developed in the Oregon emigrations of 1842-8. At the point of rocks twelve miles above Priest Rapids, the country was found impracticable for three-quarters of a mile on the east side of the river. Wagons and freight were accordingly conveyed around this in canoes. At Okanagan the Columbia was crossed in the same manner, the cattle swimming. Two canoes were lashed alongside and placed endwise to the bank; the wagons were then rolled or lifted into them empty, and the freight was stowed in the bottom or in the wagon-beds, as was most convenient. Three wagons and their contents were taken over at one time in safety by four men, one each occupying the bow and stern in both canoes.

When the expedition reached Okanagan Lake it was found necessary to build rafts in order to pass some difficult forest-covered country, cut up by ravines. Wagons and freight were taken upon several large rafts, poled and towed along shore with ropes, while the cattle were driven, under the direction of explorers, to a point where the country was more open. Palmer had a party of men in advance all the way, exploring and making a road, or cutting timber as far north, on his second trip in 1859, as Alexandria, and later to Lightning Creek, where he established a trading post and sold out his oxen for beef.

That the Hudson's Bay Company preferred to hold the main land with its furs and gold, exclusive, there can be no doubt. That they resorted to dishonorable measures when they saw the inevitable upon them, is not true. Like any other bloodless and mercenery association, when they saw their fur field despoiled by invaders whose presence they were powerless to oppose, they turned to the best account they were able their facilities for transportation and trade, which was unquestionably their privilege, and as was said by a writer at the time, that he could not but regard the officers and servants of the Hudson's Bay Company upon the Pacific Coast, in points of integrity and humanity, as far above the average corporation monopolist.

When the news was received in a reliable form and from persons well known in California, all agreeing that there was really much gold in the sands of the Fraser and that it existed in extremely fine particles, though accompanied by the warning that the high water season was just commencing which would render the bars of the river, the only good ground so far as known, inaccessible for several months, every old miner in California understood the significance of the fact. The theory so well understood in every gold mining country in the world of fine gold necessarily coming from a coarse gold region, furnished the plain, unvarnished and all-sufficient cause for the unparalled stampede. It has been proven that their surmise was absolutely correct since the rich discoveries in Cariboo have been made.

It is as necessary to tell what the Californians who sought gold on the

Fraser River did not find as to tell what they did find. That is to say, what failed them in their expectations and what they found new which will profitably illustrate the mining history of the coast. First of all, the forbidding grandeur of the Fraser canon overwhelmed them and drove thousands southward no richer than they came. Nevertheless, despite this reaction, the country was settled, towns were built and in the course of several years after the Fraser excitement, mineral resources and lines of transportation were developed in the great northern interior of the Pacific slope which were destined to assume a national and continental significance. The temporary drawbacks were due to the physical features with which the advancing tide of population had to grapple. No road or trail practicable for animals existed along the Fraser canon during the early stages of the gold excitement, so that it was quite impossible to follow up and to support any large number, hence all but a few fell back until the completion of the road which Douglas caused to be opened through the western rim of the high plateau. The twenty thousand who went to Fraser River from California in 1858 were warned that the bars where gold was reported would remain inaccessible on account of the high water until after midsummer and to wait for the opportunity to mine in that wilderness would be costly to say the least and might be death, but reasoning from their experience in California, too little importance was attached to this feature of the new mines, as it was concluded that in the meantime the ravines and the smaller tributaries could be more or less profitably worked, but they found no ravine diggings like those in the mountain counties of California, with gold lying in a concentrated form on the bed rock and the latter exposed by the eroding stream.

The history of the mining countries north of California and which include Kootanai, Cariboo, Omenica and Cassiar, and lastly the Klondike, seem to all be a continuation of the California gold fields, and operations in most of these mining territories have been actively carried on up to the present time since the discovery of gold in California in 1848 and in British Columbia in 1858. The estimated output of these countries up to the present time is as follows:

California—$1,298,115,604.

British Columbia (which includes Kootanai, Cariboo, Omenica and Cassiar) —$60,985,608.

GOLD FIELDS OF THE YUKON.

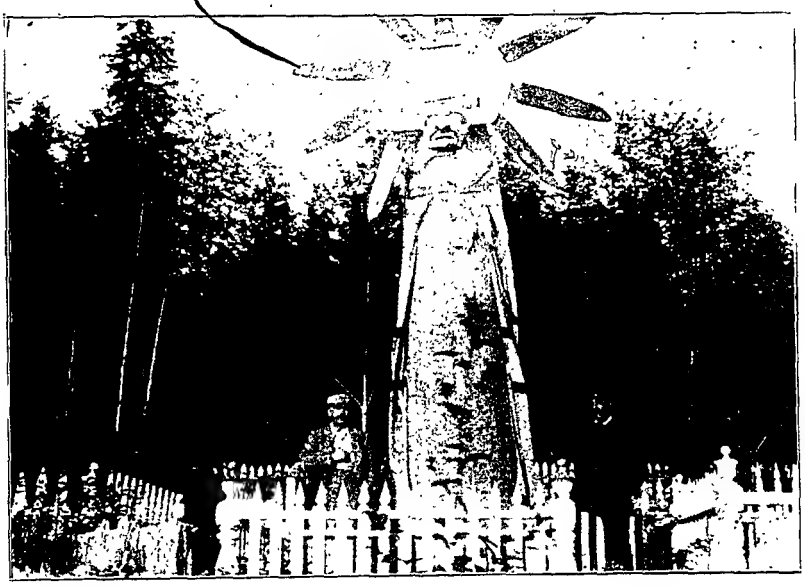
A great deal has been written and said about the Yukon district, and it is thought that it will be impossible to give any more reliable information about this district than to reprint the speech delivered by Mr. William Ogilvie at Victoria on the fifth of November, 1897, immediately upon his return from the Yukon district. Mr. Ogilvie is a man of ability and integrity and whose statements can be absolutely relied upon. He speaks from experience, as he spent several years in the district as surveyor in the employ of the Dominion Government.

Mr. Ogilvie said: "To make a commencement of the subject, we will assume that we want to visit the Yukon country. I may say that I object to

the use of the name Klondike, because that is so small a portion of the territory we have up there in the Yukon region, in comparison with which the area of the Klondike is an insignificant quantity, and nearly all that vast stretch of country has yet to be prospected. I will first introduce you to the several routes into this gold-bearing region which are now known. Leaving Victoria by any one of the steamers which run from here we make our way through the well known Seymour Narrows, taking care to time the passage to reach there at a suitable stage of the water, for it is well known that no ship can go through except at either high or low tide. In a few days, according to the capacity of the steamer, we reach Port Simpson, the most northerly seaport in British Columbia or Canada on the Pacific Ocean. If we wish to make our way farther in British bottoms, we can here take the river steamers and proceed from Port Simpson to Wrangel, it being about 170 miles from the former point to the mouth of the Stickeen River, proceeding up that river about 150 miles, or perhaps a little less distance as will be found when the surveys are made for the proposed railway facilities. The distance occupies sixty hours or a little more. From the head of the Stickeen the road would follow through an undulating country which presents no serious obstacles to railway construction, and for the greater part of the distance of 150 miles is pretty well covered with timber. Mr. W. T. Jennings, C. E., who lately made an examination of that route for the Government, gave me some notes on it and asked me to say that the natural food supply for horses or cattle, as he saw it, was not more than sufficient to feed a couple of hundred head. Any greater number would soon crop it bare. Those contemplating entry by that route may take this as a warning, and carry with them a sufficient quantity of food to obviate any risk in this direction, otherwise the consequences may be serious. The surface consists of low, sandy ridges, interspersed with low, swampy ground, the passage of which would be difficult for pack animals. Arrived at the head of Teslin Lake, we produce our whipsaws and commence to get out lumber for our boats. Now, whipsawing has been said to be one of the inventions of Satan, and when two are doing that work it is necessary for success that one shall push and the other shall pull; but when, as is too often the case with the tenderfoot, both either pull or both push, there is likely to be some inquiry from the man who is above as to what the other fellow is doing, and there may be some uncomplimentary language indulged in and the man below may ask his partner to come down and have it out. And if this same man below gets a grain of sawdust in his eye during the progress of the quarrel there will be quite a sulphurous atmosphere around there for some time. After a while though, in spite of these difficulties, the boat will be finally got ready and then commences the trip down the Teslin Lake, which is eighty miles long and bounded on both sides by high mountains. This lake takes its name from that of a large fish found in its waters. The Teslin-tuh, which discharges the waters of this lake, means in the Indian tongue 'the Teslin River,' and to call it the Teslin-tuh River is but a repitition of words, the proper rendition being Teslin River. The Hootalinqua or Teslin River is about 125 miles long, or a total distance from Victoria to its confluence with the Lewis of about 1,300 miles by this route. At two points only are there hindrances to navigation on this river—one of them, reported to be a short distance below the lake, consists of a number of islands with narrow, shallow channels between. In very low water in autumn there is not more than two

and a half or three feet of water through, but as the bed of the river is gravel and the distance is said to be not more than a couple of hundred yards, this could easily be amended by opening the best channel and concentrating nearly all the water in the river there. The other obstacle is even less serious than this. It is farther down the river, and, as I understand it from report, consists simply of a sort of dyke of rock running across the river somewhat higher than the general bottom. In low water it is said a steamer might touch this in passing over it, but this also could be easily and cheaply remedied.

"I leave you now at the mouth of the Teslin, and go back to Wrangel, where we take an American boat to Juneau. There has been during the past few months some talk in regard to a proposed route by way of Taku Inlet. In 1894 and 1895 I was instructed to go into that portion of the country. Taku Inlet is about eighteen miles long and heads in a glacier of the same name, which is the liveliest glacier I have seen in Alaska. During the summer of



Indian Grave, Alert Bay

1893 I was camped for three weeks in its vicinity, and several times every day the noise from its discharge of ice was like salvos of artillery, and could often be distinctly heard at a distance of twelve or fifteen miles. It keeps the head of the inlet almost continuously full of ice, many pieces of which are veritable icebergs. The tides and the winds play with these and keep them drifting back and forth around the head of the inlet to such an extent as to render it almost useless as a harbor. Compared with this it seems to me the celebrated Muir glacier is tame indeed. I visited it three times, and never once saw it discharge any ice. Taku River, which empties its waters into this inlet about two miles below the glacier, runs over a pretty wide valley, and is full of sand bars that divide the waters into many streams, rendering it somewhat doubtful for steamboat navigation. I have heard it stated that this river was navigable for steamboats, but this is very questionable. During the months of June and

July, an ordinary river steamer probably could make her way up to the first forks—some sixty miles—but no further. From the forks, the route from this inlet follows the left hand, or Nakinah branch, up past the mouth of the Slocoh branch, joining from the west, and up which there is a route over which the Indians travel to Tagish Lake. The Indians report this an easy route, with two low summits to cross; but it offers no distinct advantage over the next two routes which I will notice. About eleven miles above the mouth of the Slocoh, we leave the Nakinah and go up the valley of a small stream which flows through a rocky defile, that might appropriately be termed a canyon. We follow this about four miles, and turning sharp to the right ascend the valley of another small stream some four miles to the summit. There would be considerable difficulty in the last eight miles in the construction of a railway, but from here on to Teslin Lake, some fifty or sixty miles, I do not apprehend any serious hindrance to construction of a suitable road. While on the ground, I noticed that a portion of the worst of this route might be avoided by going around a mountain to the westward of it, which seemed to me at the time to afford easier grades and a more suitable country, but which would be several miles longer. I have since learned that an engineer who was sent in this summer to search for a route through this country, examined the latter part and found it practicable. This route, as does the Stickeen, takes us to the head of Teslin Lake, from where they are one. We have here then two routes, one of them offering to us the advantage of a river, which is certainly navigable for fair sized steamers during several months. They both offer the advantage of being all-Canadian routes, because in the Anglo-Russian treaty of 1825, while Great Britain conceded a coast strip to Russia which was to be bounded by the summits of the mountains running parallel with the sea—except where such summits were more than ten marine leagues from the Coast, in which case a line ten marine leagues distant was to be the boundary—she at the same time reserved the right to navigate forever, freely and without hindrance, all streams, rivers, bays and inlets leading from the Interior to the waters of the ocean. Now, under this article, we clearly have the right to navigate both the Taku and the Stickeen, for which reason they may both be termed all-Canadian routes, but it appears from what we know at present that the Stickeen is best adapted for the purpose.

"We go back again to the coast now, and proceed a hundred miles from the Taku up to Skagway, where we find the celebrated White Pass route. From tide water to the summit of the White Pass is a distance of about seventeen miles, four miles being through a flat, timbered valley. Above this, the valley becomes contracted, and any road built through to the summit would necessarily have to keep very much along the hillside. The summit is about 2,600 feet above tide water, from where the remainder of the thirty-five miles to Lake Bennett is undulating, rocky surface, with very little soil for filling or grading purposes. We now return to Skagway, and go through by the Dyea route, which has been used by the Indians for generations. And it is evident that the Indians knew their business in selecting this route. The word 'Dyea' is itself an Indian one, meaning 'pack' or 'load'—a very appropriate name for the trail. From tide water to the mouth of the canyon it would be easy to build a road—as easy almost as to construct one along a city street. From the mouth of the canyon to Sheep Camp construction is more difficult, in fact it

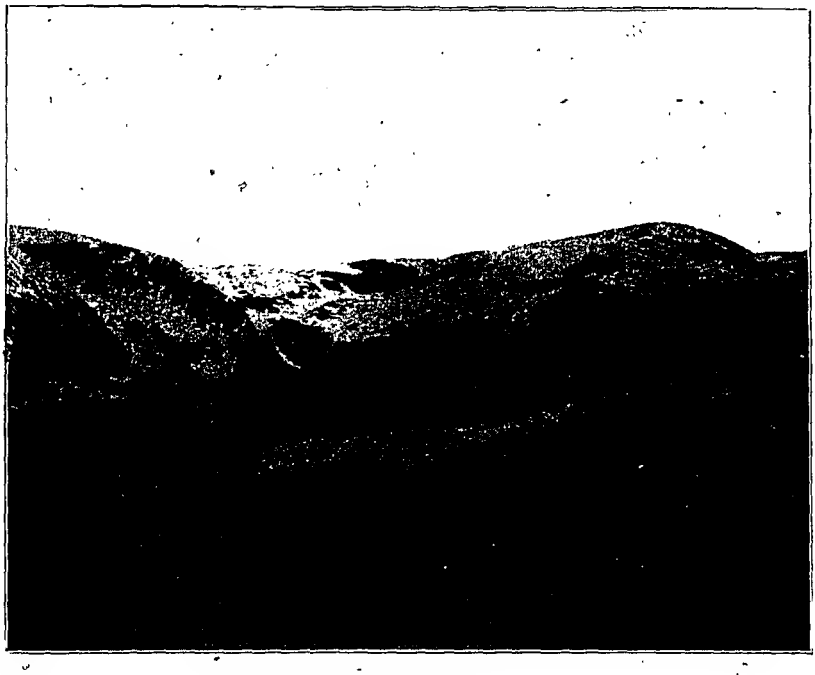
would probably be necessary to suspend the road by iron girders from the side of the cliff. From Sheep Camp to the summit is still more difficult, as all who have gone over the road will heartily agree. It is in many parts very steep, especially the last bit at the summit, where an ascent of over 500 feet is made up a very sharp incline covered with masses of broken rock which add much to the difficulty of the climb. In the months of February, March and April, and, in fact, May and June, this is smoothed by the snow which falls on it to the depth of fifty or sometimes sixty feet, so that it is only in the months of July, August, September and October that this difficulty presents itself. The summit is about 3,600 feet above tide water. Between the summit and Lake Lindeman, a distance of about fifteen and one-half miles, there is a fall of about 1,320 feet. During the summer months, three lakes in this stretch, aggregating something over four miles, lessen very much the hardships of packing. The pack trail, though at places a little rocky, is not a difficult one. Lake Bennett, where we ended our White Pass route, is separated from Lake Lindeman by a sandy ridge about three-quarters of a mile across. The upper twelve miles of this lake averages a little more than half a mile wide, and is comparatively shallow. About fifteen miles down, the southwest arm of the lake joins, and down this latter, fierce winds blow which frequently get up a very ugly sea, decidedly dangerous for small boats, as I myself experienced, being twice windbound there for three days. Cariboo Crossing, which is about two and a half miles long, brings us to Tagish Lake, some seventeen miles in length as traversed by this route. Between Tagish Lake and Marsh Lake there is about five miles of river which is easily navigable for any ordinary river steamer, the shallowest part being at the head, where even at the lowest water I think four feet can be found. The rest of it is ten or twelve feet in depth. On the bank of this river, about one and a half miles below Tagish Lake, the Canadian police and customs officers are stationed. Marsh Lake is about nineteen miles in length, and from it to the canyon is about twenty-five miles. For a fair sized boat the canyon is easily practicable. Its length is about five-eighths of a mile, and the run through is made in about three minutes. To make the run successfully, keep your boat in the middle of the channel. If you allow it to be caught in the eddies on the sides, it is immediately whirled round and round and is probably dashed against the steep basaltic sides. It is almost imperative, to avoid this, that enough men be in the boat to keep good steerway on her by rowing. If not, the steersman soon loses control of her, very probably with the result above mentioned. Just at the foot of the canyon are three heavy swells, where if the boat runs fast she will dip water. To avoid these, incline her a little to the left, and pass them. When once past these swells, turn sharply to the right and a few powerful strokes will bring you into an eddy which will land you, whether you will or not, on the eastern bank. Here tie your boat for a few minutes—walk down and examine the rapids which begin less than half a mile below the canyon and extend about half a mile. The water in this rapid is rougher than in the canyon, and requires a little care to run through, but as every boat going down has run it, and I have heard of no accidents, you need not be over-apprehensive of any trouble here. Below this rapid less than half a mile of smooth water, in which there are two sharp bends in the river, brings you to the head of the White Horse. Now, the White Horse has been run by a great many

boats, and by many successfully. But I have traced the death of thirteen men by drowning at this point in the summer of 1895, and I fancy that is a large percentage of those who attempted to run it in that year. Many who escaped, lost their effects or had them damaged by water. It is, no doubt, a very nice thing to talk of running the White Horse after you have gone through it, but it takes much of the glory off when you have to admit that you lost most of your outfit or had your boat filled with water. I would strongly recommend you to pack your outfit past this, and if you must run the White Horse, do so in an empty boat.

"I only know the Dalton trail by report. I had an interview with Mr. Dalton, from whom this trail is named, in the summer of 1896, and got copious notes from him of its direction, extent and condition. Our Government sent Mr. McArthur, one of our surveyors, over it this year to examine and report. His report has not yet been submitted to the department, and, of course, I can say very little concerning it until that is done. But I will submit the following from his diary: The summit of this trail is about forty-five miles from the coast and 3,000 feet above the sea. The watershed is about 75 miles from the coast, and Dalton's trading post 100 miles from the coast. Thence to the Pelly is about 200 miles farther. This route passes over a nice, undulating plain, well timbered in the valleys with grass on the slopes, although not enough to feed any large number of animals. Mr. McArthur asked me to say that two or three hundred animals passing over it would soon crop it bare, and I make this statement as a warning to those who may be contemplating entry by that route. The first thirty-four miles of the Dalton trail is in disputed territory; the rest of it is in Canada, just as is partially the case with the Dyea and Skagway trails too. Now, for my part, I think it is our duty as Canadians to sink all political differences — to let the fire of patriotism consume all feelings that would tend to retard the construction of an all-Canadian route to our own gold fields, so that we may enjoy as fully as possible the benefits that region will bring if we use our rights wisely and well. We have the best end of the Yukon River — that is certain. The steamers of both companies trading in that region have several times ascended as far as Fort Selkirk, at the mouth of the Pelly, and have never found any difficulty in so doing. In fact, one of the companies wintered its steamer here for several years. In going down the Yukon in a steamer recently from Dawson City to the mouth, I noted no trouble until we got down to Circle City, to get into which we had to cross a shallow gravel bar, which required careful navigation. Below Circle City the river spreads out over what is known as the Yukon flats, and every year there is more or less trouble in navigating the waters here. During the present summer both companies had boats stuck here for several days. One of them lay on a bar for three weeks, and could only be got off by digging the bar from under her — cutting a canal, as it were, in the bar and letting her slip into it. Another boat stuck near the same place for several days until a sister steamer came along and butted her over, but in doing so stuck herself on the same bar — and I don't know how long she stayed there.

"The navigation of the Yukon River in the upper part is open from May until the middle of October, while at the mouth it is not open before the 1st of July, and navigation does not last longer than the 1st of October — that is only from two and a half to three months — and it takes river steamers fourteen,

fifteen and even sixteen days to get up the river to Dawson. St. Michael's, the headquarters of the river boats, is eighty miles from the mouth of the river, and only in calm weather can the steamers cross that bit of open sea. In addition to this the bars at the mouth of the river often catch steamers on their way both in and out, and delay them hours—even days. In one instance, in 1896, a steamer lay on a bar at the mouth for fourteen days, until a combination of favorable winds and tides raised the water sufficiently to float her. It is almost impossible to mark a channel at this place, for the movement of the ice in Behring Sea is continually changing the depths at this point, so that what might be the channel one season would not be the next. From this cause, and high winds making it too rough for river steamers to cross the intervening eighty miles from St. Michael's to the mouth, there is



The Gorat Glacier, Stikine River

much delay here, and it would be impossible to fix regular dates of sailing. To deepen one of the channels sufficiently to allow ocean vessels to enter the mouth of the river would be very expensive, and even when done could hardly be expected, under the conditions, to be permanent. The two companies which have traded on the river in the past had in August last plying on that stream a fleet of seven steamers—four the property of the Alaska Commercial Company, and three of the North American Trading and Transportation Company. These are fair-sized boats, capable of carrying from 350 to 400 tons each, and make three, four or five trips per season, as conditions suit or necessities require. There were also two other smaller steamers in course of construction at St. Michael's in August last, but they were too small to materially affect the transportation question. I believe that it is in contempla-

tion by the two companies named to place more steamers on the river during the coming season.

"Next let me tell you something about the discovery of gold in the Yukon. Early in the '70's an attempt was made to get over to Teslin Lake by Cassiar miners, who had learned of the existence of a large lake northward from Cassiar. Several people tried, but unsuccessfully, and returned disgusted. In 1872, September 2, two North-of-Ireland men, from County Antrim, named Arthur Harper and Frederick W. Hart; George W. Fitch, who came from the vicinity of Kingston, Ontario; Andrew Kanselar, a German, and Sam. Wilkinson, an Englishman, left Manson Creek to go on a prospecting trip down the Mackenzie River. Harper, because gold had been found on the Laird, which empties into the Mackenzie and is one of its principal branches, was under the impression that there was gold on the Mackenzie. They made their way down Peace River by the Finlay branch, to what is known as Half Way River. There they met a party of men surveying for the Canadian Pacific Railway, and unwittingly helped to drive a great spike in our national highway, because they gave their boat to the survey men to make their way up the Peace River. Harper and the others packed their provisions up the Half Way River and over a twenty-five or thirty mile portage to the waters of the Nelson River; down which they went until they found it safe for the passage of canoes, where they made a cache, and proceeded to make two dug-out canoes with which to ascend the Nelson.

"In 1891, I was sent by the Dominion Government to examine the north-east portion of this province, and coming out by the trail followed by Harper I saw the cache which Harper had told me about in 1887. Well, Harper's party made their way down to the Laird River, where they met two men named McQuesten and Mayo. Wilkinson determined to try his luck on the Laird, and left the others. Harper, Hart and Kanselar went down the Mackenzie, across to the Peel, and thence over to Bell's River, an affluent of the Porcupine, and down the Porcupine to Fort Yukon, where Harper saw an Indian who had some native copper which he said came from White River. Harper determined to try for it. With Fitch and Hart he went four hundred miles up the Yukon to White River in September, and thence up White River until they were stopped by running ice, when they halted and made preparations for winter, building a cabin of suitable dimensions for shelter. From this point they made prospecting excursions in various directions, mainly in search of the copper which they did not find. Harper attributes their non-success to the late closing of the river, and the thickness of the ice drift, which precluded any attempt to cross it. He believes he saw, across the river, rock of such peculiar colors as to justify him in at least assuming that he had found a copper vein of considerable extent. He kept that matter a subject of inquiry with the Indians during his long sojourn in the country, and now thinks that he is certain of its location, having from time to time obtained from the Indians of the locality pieces of native copper and copper ore, all of which seem to him to point to one locality. Where this is, he did not yet tell me, but he hopes if he lives long enough to be able to discover and prospect what he considers a very extensive copper-bearing district.

"In the spring, being short of provisions, they made their way down the river, prospecting as they went, and found very good indications in the vicinity

Laird

of the mouth of the Stewart. But the shortage of provisions prevented their taking advantage of these discoveries. On their way up they ascended Forty Mile River two or three miles prospecting, and found very good prospects, but the Indians whom they met on that river scared them away by telling them that there was a very dangerous and impassable canyon some distance further on. We now know this is not the case. They found no gold on the Mackenzie, and the result of their prospecting, Harper summed up to me thus: On the Nelson, nothing; on the Liard, colors; on the Mackenzie, nothing; on the Peel, fair prospects; on the Porcupine, colors; on the Bell, nothing; and on the Yukon, prospects everywhere. To obtain provisions they had to make their way to St. Michael's, and on their way back they encountered McQuesten and Mayo, who had gone into the service of the Alaska Commercial Company. Near the mouth of the Koyukuk Harper saw an Indian with some gold which he said came from a mountain in the vicinity. Harper spent the winter of 1874 and 1875 prospecting at the point indicated, but found nothing. McQuesten and Mayo, as a result of a conversation with him, went up the stream and established Fort Reliance in August and September, 1874. Harper joined them the following summer, and a partnership was formed which existed until 1889. Now, Fort Reliance is only six and a half miles from the mouth of the renowned Klondike. While trading it appears that they made very few and short attempts at prospecting. The valley of the Klondike and its affluents is a favorite hunting ground, but they never prospected there, and if they had done so in the Klondike itself they would have found nothing, for its bed consists of coarse gravel through which fine gold would have soon gone out of sight, and at that time no prospecting was done except surface prospecting. In the summer of 1887 the valley of the Klondike was prospected for upwards of forty miles, with no result. Again in 1893 it was prospected, and nothing found.

"Early in the 80's gold was found on the Stewart River by miners, prominent among whom were two brothers named Boswell, from Peterboro, Ontario. There is little doubt but that much of the early mining done in the country was due to the reports of Harper, who had written to old comrades in British Columbia, where he had mined for many years, trying to induce them to try their luck on the Yukon. In 1886 Mr. Harper erected a trading post at the mouth of the Stewart, for the benefit of the miners there, some thirty or more in number. In the same year coarse gold was found on Forty Mile. Now, as coarse gold is what all miners principally search for, as soon as this discovery was made known, Stewart River was deserted. Harper left Stewart River in June 1887, and went down to the mouth of the Forty Mile, where he began the erection of a residence and trading house, the nucleus of the famed town of Forty Mile. The Forty Mile was prospected its entire length, and to enumerate the many creeks and gulches on its headwaters on which gold was found, would now be a waste of time. From the headwaters of Forty Mile many went over to the headwaters of Sixty Mile—the two being only separated by a low, narrow divide—and Miller and Glacier Creeks were discovered. Miller was considered the richest creek in the entire country for several years, but would not at all compare with Bonanza or El Dorado. Miller and Glacier Creeks were believed to be in Alaska until I produced the 141st meridian, which is the international boundary line, and found them well in Canada—so far that there can never be any question as to which side of the line they

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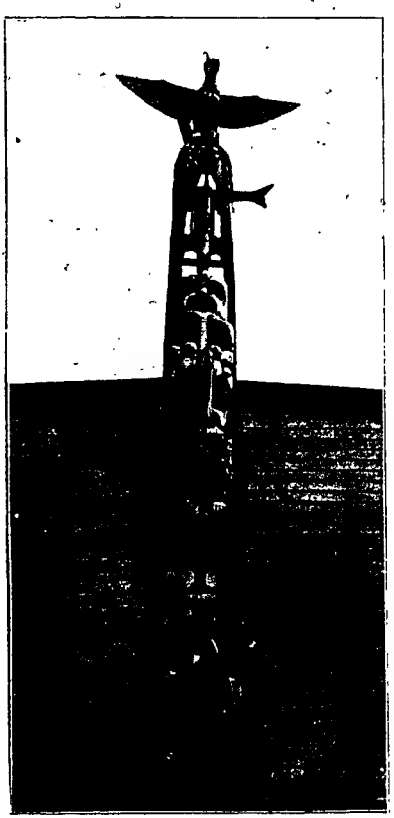
are on. I may state, for the information of many, as a case of what those contemplating entry to that country may regard as the usual thing, that Miller Creek was prospected three different times, and on each occasion given up as worthless. Yet, after all, it turned out to be the richest creek known in the country until 1896. Forty Mile, with Sixty Mile, was THE mining ground in that vicinity until 1891, when gold was found on the headwaters of Birch Creek. This discovery was led up to by a Canadian missionary, Archdeacon Macdonald, of Fort McPherson, on the Peel River. This gentleman, in connection with his missionary labors, had travelled a great deal over the country, and in coming from Tenana River he found a nugget in a gulch on one of the head streams of Birch Creek. He reported the find to some miners, and they made search for the place where he had found it. But although they did not find the place answering the description he had given of it, they found the gold. This was the origin of Circle City, which is on the banks of the Yukon, about 200 miles below Forty Mile, and eight miles from the head of Birch Creek. This town was begun in 1891, and absorbed the attention of a great many at Forty Mile, and the bulk of the new comers. There are a couple of gulches at the head of Birch Creek which were thought to be rich, and are good—but they cannot be compared with El Dorado or Bonanza. I will use the words of an old, experienced miner, who said to me that the Birch Creek diggings 'are only Chinese diggings' compared with Bonanza or El Dorado.

"'Why,' he went on, 'I know one or two claims on the El Dorado that I would not give for the whole Birch Creek district.'

"A good creek was discovered on the head of Forty Mile in the fall of 1895, named Mosquito Creek. As the law allows a claim of 1,320 feet measured in the general direction of the creek, the few who were in the country at the time of the discovery took up the whole creek by locating claims of that extent, while the rule up to this time had been claims of 500 feet only.

"As I have before told you, we own Miller and Glacier Creeks, besides some others affluent to Sixty Mile. I will now proceed to show you we own a vastly larger area and also much richer. The discovery of the gold on the Klondike as it is called, although the proper name of the creek is in Indian 'Troan-dik,' was made by three men: Robert Henderson, a Canadian and a native of Prince Edward Island; Frank Swanson, a Norwegian; and another named Munson, whose nationality I do not know—who in July, 1896, were prospecting on Indian Creek. They proceeded up the creek without finding sufficient to satisfy them until they reached Dominion Creek, and after prospecting there they crossed over the divide and found Gold Bottom, an affluent of the Klondike, where they got good prospects and went to work. Provisions running short, Henderson retraced his steps to the mouth of Indian Creek, leaving the two others at work. From the mouth of Indian Creek he went up to Sixty Mile, but failing to obtain a supply there he had to make for Forty Mile. On the way down he passed an old mining comrade named George W. Carmack, a native of California, who had associated with him two Indians, Tagish Jim and Tagish Charlie, natives of the upper waters of the Yukon, who proudly claimed to be 'King George Men,' or British Indians. Now one of the articles of the miner's code is that he shall proclaim all discoveries made by him as soon as possible, and Henderson at once informed Carmack of the discovery on Gold Bottom, and advised him to try there. Making inquiries of the

local Indians as to the situation of Gold Bottom, he learned the route to it, and along with the two Indians mentioned, started, climbing over the ridge which divides the valley of the Yukon from the valley of Bonanza Creek, down into that creek and up it to El Dorado. He went up it about three miles and then followed the ridge dividing its waters from those of Bonanza until he struck the watershed between Indian Creek and Klondike, along which he travelled until he reached the head of a creek that he assumed to be the Gold Bottom. He went down, found Swanson and Munson at work, but was not satisfied with the prospects there and determined to return and prospect the creek now known as Bonanza from its head downward, as it lay in the direction of his way home. He found nothing of note until he came down about midway, where from a little nook in a bend of the creek he panned out a good prospect. This encouraged him to try again. He did so, and in a few moments panned out $12.75, which he put in an old Winchester cartridge shell and corked with a piece of stick. This was on the 10th of August, 1896. The next day he staked discovery claim and No. 1 below for himself, No. 2 for Tagish Charlie, and No. 1 above for Tagish Jim. He then made his way down the creek as fast as possible, and went down the river for a supply of provisions. On the way he met several miners and informed them of his discovery. At first they would not believe him, as his reputation for truth was not above par. These miners said they could not tell when he was telling the truth, if he ever was, as he was the greatest liar this side of a great many places. Some of them came to me and asked my opinion. I pointed out to them that there was no question about the man having the $12.75 in gold. The only question, then, was where did he get it? He had not been up the Sixty Mile, nor yet the Forty Mile, and he must have got it somewhere near where he was engaged fishing, and that was right at the mouth of the Klondike. Then followed the excitement. Boatload after boatload of men went up from Forty Mile. They went up anyhow and anyway, starting at all times of the day and night. Men who had been drunk for weeks and weeks, in fact were tumbled into boats and taken up without any knowledge that they were traveling. One man, indeed, was so drunk that he did not realize that he had left Forty Mile until he was more than two-thirds of the way to the Klondike. And yet he owns one of the very best claims in the Klondike district today. The whole creek, a distance of about twenty miles, giving in the neighborhood of



Totem Pole.
Alert Bay, British Columbia.

two hundred claims, was staked in a few weeks. El Dorado Creek, seven and a half or eight miles long, providing eighty claims, was staked in about the same length of time. Boulder, Adams and other gulches were prospected, and gave good surface showings, gold being found in the gravel in the creeks. Good surface prospects may be taken as an indication of the existence of very fair bedrock. It was not until December, however, that the character of the diggings was established. Twenty-One above discovery on Bonanza was the one which first proved the value of the district. The owner of this claim was in the habit of cleaning up a few tubfuls of dirt every night and paying his workmen at the rate of a dollar and a half an hour. Claim No. 5, El Dorado, next produced a pan of $57. This was succeeded by one of upwards of $80. Then came one of $112. Soon after, Claim No. 16 showed up a pan of $212, and this it was that caused the intense excitement in that country. I believe the excitement outside was even greater than it was there. The news went down to Circle City late in December, and it at once emptied itself and came up to Dawson. The scenes of the Forty Mile rush were repeated. The miners came up any way they could, at all hours of the day and night, with provisions and empty handed. On their arrival they found that all the creeks had been staked weeks before. A good many Canadians and others who at Circle City had out-Americaned the natural native-born Americans in their protestations and professions of Americanism, came up to our territory in this rush, with certain expectations of realizing something in the new finds by reason of their nationality, and in Canada made loud professions of loyalty, cursed their luck, and declared it strange indeed that a Canadian or a Briton could not get a foot of ground in his own country. One of these men who arrived too late was an Irishman, who, when he found that he could not get anything here, went up and down the creeks trying to bully the owners into selling, informing them that the claims would be cut down from 500 to 250 feet, and that they might as well sell him a half interest as have the claims taken away from them. Afterwards he actually threatened to have this done, and declared that he had a "pull" at Ottawa, and could accomplish it. He came one day to where I was at work, entered into a discussion with the man assisting me, and offered to wager the sum of $2,000 that all the claims in the districts would be cut in two —that is reduced to 250 feet, before the 1st of August next, this being in March. One of the parties who heard him came to me and asked what I thought about it.

"'Do you gamble?' I asked him.

"'Well—a little,' he replied.

"'My friend,' said I, 'you should have taken that bet then, for you were never surer of winning $2,000 in all your life.'

"But this Irishman and others of his kin rang the changes so much on the theme of the cutting in two of the claims that to quell the excitement I put up notices calling attention to the fact that the length of the claims was regulated by an act of the Parliament of Canada, and that no change could be made in their extent except by the same body; and I further told the claim owners to pay no attention to the threats. One man tried, by securing a fraction between two claims, to force the owners to come to his terms, forgetting that the law of this country does not allow any man to play the hog. For some time he kept the owners of the adjoining claims very uneasy. As I was making a survey of

the claims on El Dorado at that time, and gradually approaching the claims concerned, 36 and 37, there was much anxiety as to what the result of my survey would be. When I arrived at this spot I found the fraction in which this man was interested was only a matter of inches, and so I determined to have some fun at the party's expense. In order to run the line bounding the fraction and the claim, I had to set a tall pole up at the boundary post, which was down in a hollow. The man whom I sent to set it up could not get it plumb enough to satisfy me. I wasted a good deal of time in trying to get him to plumb it, and at last in assumed vexation I said, 'Oh, I'll go down and plumb it myself' — and started towards the post. Now, I had made it a rule never to tell anyone the extent of a fraction, but marked it on the post bounding it, and if there was more than one person wanting it, the first seeing the extent, and properly marking it, of course had the prior claim to it. While I was standing by the post the fraction claimant came up to me and piteously asked if I would not tell him how much of a fraction there was, as it was getting late and he had a long way to go home. I said 'I can't tell you whether it's three or four inches until I get this picket plumbed.' He made no reply — just one look, and then he started down the creek, pulling up his stakes as he went, to the great amusement of the bystanders. He is nowknown as 'Three-Inch White' throughout all that country.

"Bonanza and El Dorado Creeks afford between them 278 claims; their several affluents will yield as many more, and nearly all of these claims are good. I have no hesitation in saying that about a hundred of those on Bonanza will yield upwards of $30,000,000, and about thirty on the El Dorado will yield a million each. These two creeks will, I am quite confident, turn out from $60,000,000 to $75,000,000, and I can safely say that there is no other region in the world that has afforded so many homestakes—that is, fortunes enabling the owners to go home and enjoy the remainder of their days at their ease—considering that the work has had to be done with very limited facilities, the scarcity of provisions and of labor, and that the crudest of appliances only are as yet available. When I tell you that to properly work each claim, ten or twelve men are required, and that only 500 were available that season, it will give you an idea of the difficulties which had to be contended with.

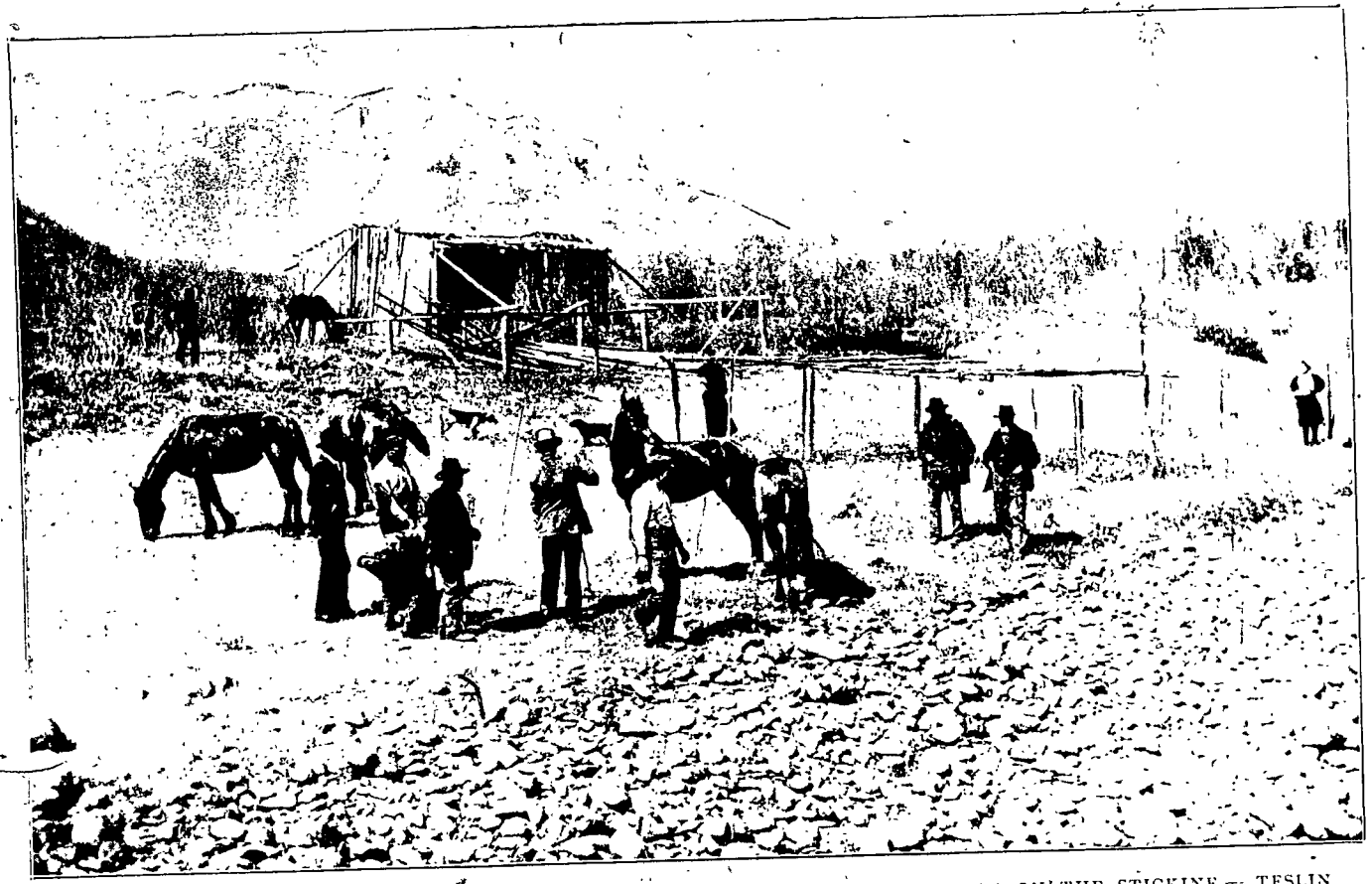
"On Bear Creek, which joins the Klondike about seven or eight miles aboye that, good claims have been found, and also on Gold Bottom, Hunker, Last Chance and Cripple Creeks. On Gold Bottom as high as $15 to the pan has been taken, and although we cannot say that they are as rich as El Dorado or Bonanza, they are richer than any other creeks known in that country. Then thirty-five miles higher up the Klondyke, Too-Much-Gold Creek was found. It obtained its name from the fact that the Indians who saw mica glistening in its sand, mistook it for gold and so named it.

"A fact that I am now going to state to you, and one easily demonstrated, is that from Telegraph Creek northward to the boundary line, we have in the Dominion and in British Columbia an area of from 550 to 600 miles in length, and from 100 to 150 miles in width, over the whole of which rich prospects have been found. We must have from 60,000 to 100,000 Square miles, which, with proper care, judicious handling, and improved facilities for the transportation of food and utensils, will be the largest, as it is probaly the richest, gold fields the world has ever known. Your Provincial Minister of

Mines may wish to extend that down to the boundary line, but that, of course, I leave to him.

"The Stewart and the Pelly are in this gold-bearing zone, and also give promising indications. As I before mentioned, the Stewart River had been mined on for several years before the discovery of coarse gold on Forty Mile. After the discovery of Forty Mile it took the attention of all the miners entering the country until the discovery of gold on Birch Creek. The Forty Mile District, together with the Birch Creek District, engaged all the transportation facilities of the two companies trading on the river, and there was no provisions to spare for any other than these two points. This prohibited prospecting on the Stewart or elsewhere, but many of the old timers declared, and do so yet, that with a proper supply of provisions placed convenient to the Stewart, it will be the camp of the country, if, with its affluents aggregating about 800 miles of stream, on the bars of Stewart River, year after year, grub-stakes have been cleaned up, the supply being replaced annually. It is now easy to make $8.00 a day off those bars, and the discoverers for several years made $20.00 a day and upwards. Now, it is obvious from the yearly renewal of this gold that it must come from somewhere. That somewhere has not yet been found. Give us facilities and a very short time will settle the question. The Stewart itself, it is claimed by those who ought to know well, is navigable for a distance of about 150 miles from its mouth. This in itself is a valuable asset in the development of that district. Robert Henderson, whom I referred to as leading up to the discovery of gold on Bonanza, in June of the present year started up the Stewart alone in a small boat with a supply of provisions and tools to prospect the river and its branches, he being convinced that it offers the largest and probably the richest field in the country for prospecting. That is the stuff the true prospector is made of, and I am proud to say that he is a Canadian.

"In regard to quartz claims. Seven have already been located in the vicinity of Forty Mile and Dawson. One of these, named Cone Hill, about two and a half miles up Forty Mile River, from the Yukon, is a veritable mountain of gold-bearing rock, and would require generations to work it out. Assays show from $3.00 to $11.00 per ton; the only question is, will that amount pay for reduction under the conditions there existent, and the enormous freight rates incidental to transportation to that vicinity. About forty miles farther up the river two large claims have been located by an expert miner hailing from the United States, who has had considerable experience in Montana and other mineral states, and he assured me that the extent of the lode on which these two claims are situated is such that it is greater than anything else in the world, his assays showing the value to be about $8.00 a ton. On Bear Creek a quartz claim was located last winter, and I drew up the papers for the owner; he had to swear that he had found gold; he swore this, but he would not tell me what it was. I pounded up several specimens of the rock in a hand mortar but had no sieve to properly complete the operation. Those who understand this will infer at once the difficulties I had to contend with. The poorest specimen I tried yielded one hundred dollars to the ton; the richest, one thousand. Now while I am positive of this, I know nothing of the extent of the lode. The discoverer described it to me as being about 30 feet high and 15 wide, projected into the bed of a creek, but whether it was



ON THE UPPER STICKINE.—LANDING HORSES FROM THE CALEDONIA FOR SERVICE ON THE STICKINE — TESLIN ROUTE — TAKEN FROM DECK OF HUDSON BAY COMPANY'S STEAMER CALEDONIA.

the lode itself or simply the result of a slide he did not know. Even if it is the latter it would not be a very difficult feat to find the lode from which it was detached. About thirty miles up the Klondike another quartz claim has been located by a Canadian, who swore positively that he found gold in it and that it was good, but he did not say just how good.

"A point to which I now want to direct attention is that the gold on Bonanza and El Dorado Creeks, at certain stages, has the same degree of fineness. As you come down both creeks it decreases in value until it reaches a minimum of about $15.25 per ounce, Troy weight. From that point it again increases as we go farther down. Now if we draw a line through the points of corresponding value on these two creeks, we find that projecting them eastward we strike Gold Bottom and Hunker Creeks. Projecting them west we strike Miller and Glacier Creeks, and the heads of the gulches in Forty Mile, fifty or sixty miles away. What do we infer from this? That there is a continuous system of gold-bearing rock running across the country in this direction. Again we find that the gold in nuggets found on Bonanza and El Dorado bears no evidence of having travelled any distance—in fact, the majority of the nuggets are as angular and irregular in shape as though you had just pounded them out of the mother lode. This, I think, leads to the inference that the mother lode is not very distant from where the gold is now found, and the only debatable question in my mind is, is it in lodes of sufficient dimensions to pay for working by stamp mills, or is it a series of widely disseminated thin seams, that the miners term 'stringers," so scattered as to render working them unprofitable. Time alone will reveal this secret. I have been told that gold has been found at the head of Lake Lebarge, on a stream flowing into the lake from the east. Prospects, too, are found on the Dalton trail, on the other side of the Yukon River. A man riding across the Alsek, on this trail, was thrown from his horse, and in climbing ashore caught at a small tree, which pulled out by the roots. When he landed he saw something shining on the rock. He picked it up and found that it was gold. He showed me this gold at Fort Cudahy in July, 1896, the amount being about $1.60. Other prospects have also been found along the same trail, about midway between there and Selkirk. From these circumstances and discoveries, it may be assumed that in all this country there is gold, while in this particular zone it is specially abundant. This zone lies outside of a range of mountains which extends to the westward of the Rockies, and has the same general trend. It consists of a cretaceous rock rising into very high peaks in some places, and crosses the Yukon River just below the boundary.

"Another product of the country that demands attention is copper. It is doubtless to be found somewhere on the White River in great abundance, although the location of the main deposit has yet to be made. Mr. Harper was shown a large piece of pure copper in the possession of the Indians; indeed, I have seen it myself. It comes from the vicinity of the White River somewhere —just where has yet to be disclosed. Silver has also been found, and lead, and in addition, to work these when the proper time and facilities come, we have coal in abundance. It is found running along the base of the last described range of cretaceous mountains. A deposit of coal in this range runs right through our territory. At two points near Forty Mile it crops out prominently, in one place only about three-quarters of a mile from the bank of the Yukon

River. A short distance above this it crops out again only about eight miles from the Yukon, and whenever the Cone Hill mine, which I have spoken of before, is worked, the coal to work it with is only some fourteen or fifteen miles distant from the scene of operations. About thirty miles farther up, on one of the many small affluents of the Yukon, it again crops out a few miles from the bank of the main river, and at Fifteen Mile Creek, and at the head of the Thronda, there are also outcroppings of coal. On the upper branches of the Stewart coal is said to occur in the drift; and again about six miles above the Five Fingers coal crops out on the banks of the Yukon River. In fact, there is any amount of coal in the country with which to work our precious minerals when we obtain the necessary facilities. Regarding the surface of the country and the difficulties of prospecting: Passing down the river in a boat one sees a succession of trees, ten, twelve, fourteen and sixteen inches in diameter, and he naturally comes to the conclusion that it is a well timbered country, and so it is—along the margin of the river. But let him disembark and go inland, and he will find the ground covered with what is locally known as "niggerheads," which consist of columns of decayed coarse grass peculiar to this region. They are formed by the annual growth of grasses decaying and falling down, while year after year the roots of the growing grasses bind this together into an almost solid column, which stands upon a bed of mud. To walk across a niggerhead swamp is one of the most fatiguing exercises one can indulge in. You cannot walk on them—you must walk between them. Put your foot on top of one of them—it sways under you, and down you go to your knees in the mud between them. The result is that the miners and other residents of that country keep as far away from the niggerhead swamp as they conveniently can, avoiding it as they would the plague.

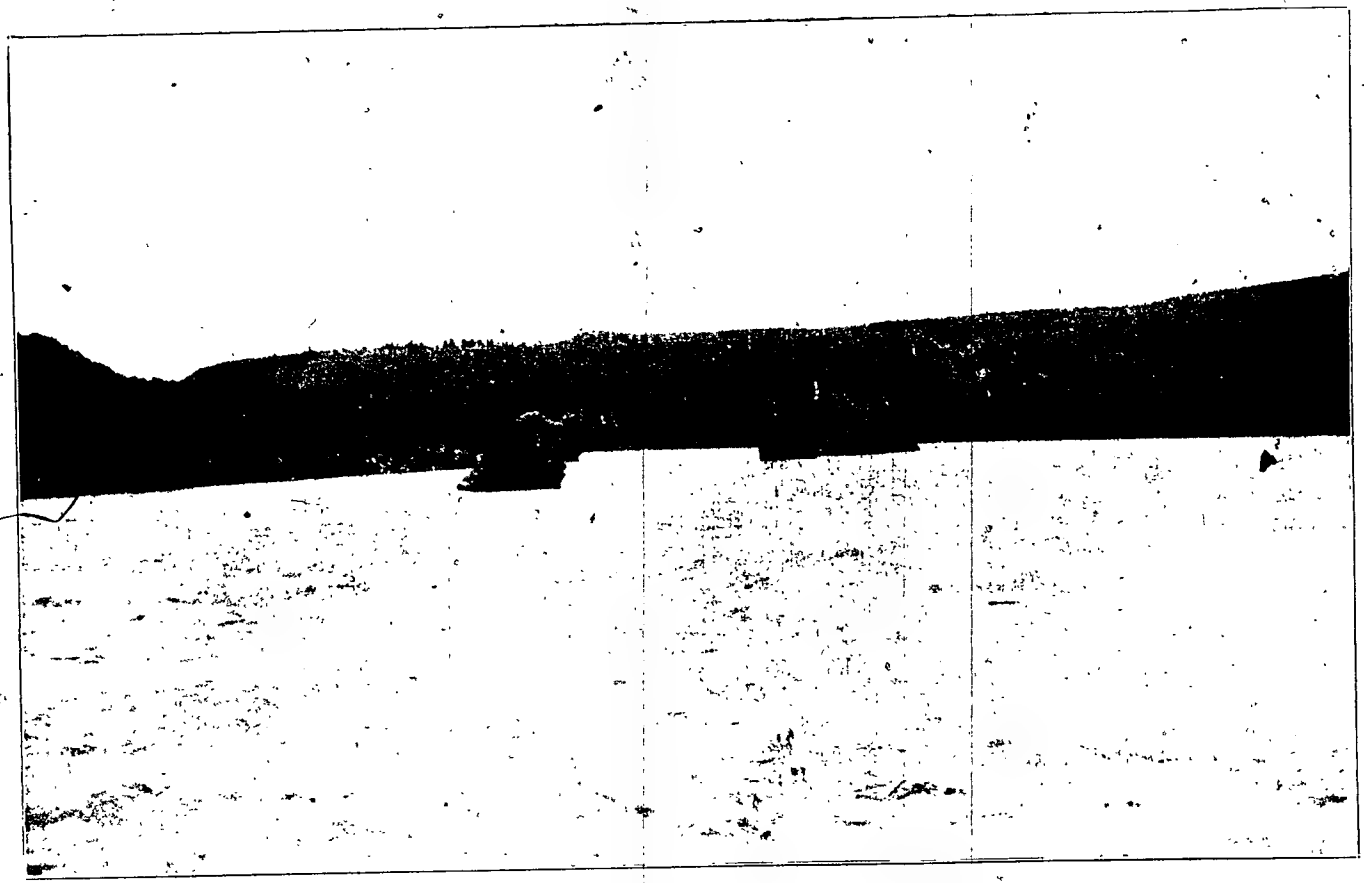
"For the rest of the country the surface is covered by from one foot to two of moss—and underneath the everlasting frost. On this a scrubby growth of trees is found, extending up the mountain side to an altitude of from one thousand to fifteen hundred feet above the river. It is this which appears to those passing down the river in boats to be a continuation of the good timber seen along the banks. Timber that is fit for anything is scarce, and we should husband it carefully. A great deal of our timber has already gone down the river. It was our timber that built Circle City. Our timber has indeed served all the purposes of the Upper Yukon country. A large amount of timber is required for the development of our own resources on the upper river, and our government should at once take steps to protect it for our own use and benefit.

"Above the timber line you come to the bare rocks—the crests bare save where clothed with a growth of lichen on which the Caribou feeds. There is no timber in the way here—no moss, and no brush. The miners, in traveling, consequently keep as much as possible to the top of the ridge.

"Bedrock prospecting necessarily has to be reserved for the winter. First the moss has to be cleared away, and then the muck or decayed vegetable mould has to be picked away for a depth of two or three feet. After two or three feet in depth has been picked out, a fire is built in this 'hole,' as it is termed, in the evening. In the morning the ground which has been thawed by the fire, is shoveled out, and in the afternoon would for another fire procured; in the evening another fire is built, the ground thawed by this is the following morning shoveled out—and so on until bedrock is reached. Six,

eight, ten and twelve feet of the surface is decayed vegetable matter and alluvial deposit of sand in the clay, termed by the miners 'muck.' As soon as gravel is struck, prospecting is commenced—that is, a pan or two of the dirt is washed to determine whether it is worth keeping or not, as the refuse is thrown on one side of the hole, and the paying dirt on the other. Near to and on bedrock the pay is found, which is generally not more than two or three feet deep. With reference to the so-called muck—all the way through it we find trees lying in every direction. These trees are of the same kinds of wood and present the same appearances of growth as those to-day growing on the surface. In order to determine approximately the age of the pay dirt, I have made a special study of features in this connection, but did not obtain sufficient data, nor was I long enough there to do so. I know that trees are now growing on the surface from one hundred to one hundred and fifty years of age, the roots of these very often engirdling trees fully as old of the same kind lying immediately beneath them. Beneath these again are other trees—and so on down to a depth often of twelve or fourteen feet. From this we must infer that the gold deposit, or pay dirt, was made thousands of years ago, yet in it we find the bones of animals which are still quite common in the district, and of others which are found farther to the south. I have in my possession two horns of the bison, or so-called buffalo, which a few years ago roamed the prairies to the south and east of this, in vast herds. These were, when I got them, in a better state of preservation than similar horns which one would pick up in a journey from, say Calgary to McLeod, or any other part of our prairie region which the buffalo frequented. I have also part of the horn of a moose—part of the head of an elk, showing the brain cavity, which is as large and well-developed as that of any elk which might be found there to-day. I have also part of what I believe to be the neck vertebræ of the bison. Along with these are found the teeth of the mastodon—several of which were picked up on the claims of Bonanza and El Dorado last winter. In one of these claims a piece of a rib was found in the pay-streak, to which some of the frozen flesh still adhered. It crumbled away, however, almost immediately on exposure to heat and the air. This piece of rib was not more than two inches in length, and from its size very probably belonged to one of the smaller animals, such as the mountain sheep or goat. I did not see or hear of any evidence of the existence of man at any depth in those creeks. I brought away for our National Museum sections of trees found in the so-called muck, from depths of ten or twelve feet. I will submit these to our experts in the several branches concerned, together with the data I noted in connection with them, and they can then theorize to their hearts' content as to their age. This much I will say—that this wood found at these depths is to all appearance the same as that which is now growing there. The size of the growth rings is no greater; the nature of the timber is the same; and the diameter of the tree is no greater than that of those now growing in the same vicinity. These facts would warrant us in saying that the climate of this district in the days of the deposit of the pay-streak, as it is termed, was much similar to what it now is. Bedrock, and the gravel above it, show no evidence of glaciation; the gold itself bears no evidence of glaciation This much I say on that point—let the experts now argue it out for themselves.

"Now, a few words on the manner of getting out the dirt in this region.



ON THE STICKINE RIVER THE "SISTER" ROCKS AND RAPIDS ABOVE GLENORA — TAKEN FROM DECK OF HUDSON'S BAY STEAMER CALEDONIA.

As soon as the ground is sufficiently frozen to enable us to prosecute our work without interference from water, we sink a hole to bedrock, as I have before described. The time this takes is measured by the depth of the hole, one foot per day being counted fair work. Should we reach bedrock without finding prospects, another hole has to be sunk in the same way, and this process continued until pay is struck. One claim-holder may locate pay at the very first hole. The man adjoining may have to sink many. One instance I know of in which eleven holes were sunk across the valley without anything being struck in any of them. In fact, the valley was almost crosscut, as it is termed, yet a miner in the vicinity paid this unfortunate man $2,500 for a half interest in his claim, being well aware of the fact that eleven holes had been put down and nothing found. This I think gives one an idea of the confidence the miner, have in the ground on those creeks. Now, suppose pay is struck in one of our holes. The pay-streak, as I have said before, is seldom more than three feet in depth. On the side of the hole which shows the best indications, a fire is placed which thaws out a few inches on that wall to a height of forty-five feet. In the morning, the waste dirt, or what contains no pay, is shovelled out and thrown to one side, the pay-dirt being placed in what is termed the dump, which freezes solid a few mornings after it has reached the top. The process is continued in the direction of the best pay, a distance which is governed by the thickness of the crust on top. If this is twenty feet, you may drift thirty feet with safety, when a new hole or shaft has to be sunk and the drifting continued. In this way the pay-streak is taken from underneath the surface during the winter until the water begins running in the spring, finds its way into the shafts, and hinders operations to such an extent that they are closed. Preparations for the erection of dams are then made, and sluice boxes procured with which to wash the dump. As many of you are unacquainted with sluicing, I will give a brief description of it. A sluice box is about ten inches in width and twelve feet in length, the boxes so made that they fit into each other, like the joints of a telescope. In these are placed what are called rifle-bars, which are strips of wood about one inch square and eight or ten feet long nailed together at their ends so as to be parallel with each other, and about one-half to three-quarters of an inch apart. These are placed longitudinally in the sluice boxes, which are set up so as to have an incline of two or three inches fall per foot of their length. Into this system of boxes a stream of water is directed, which must be of sufficient volume to carry with it the gravel and dirt that is in the dump. As soon as the sun has attained sufficient force to thaw out the surface of the dump it is, as fast as thawed, shovelled into these sluice boxes; the water carries down with it to the tailings, as it is termed, the refuse—that is the gravel, sand, and other matter which is not wanted. The gold and the black sand, which is simply pulverized magnetic ore, owing to their much greater weight fall between the rifle-bars and are held there. As soon as the rifle-bars are filled so that there is danger of the gold passing over and downward to the tailings, the flow of water is stopped, and what is called the clean-up is made. That is the rifle-bars are lifted out and the contents of the sluice boxes gathered and the black sand and other refuse separated from the gold. In one instance eighty avoirdupois pounds of gold were realized from a single clean-up, representing about $16,000

in money. This seems extraordinary, but we must bear in mind that the dump from which this came contained only $110,000, and took the united efforts of five or six men at $1.50 per hour for upwards of three months, not including the labors of sluicing, so that although it is tremendously rich, it is not exactly all profit.

"I saw the other evening in one of the papers that a man who owns a claim on El Dorado and another on Bear Creek has sold out for $1,000,000. He went into the country a poor man, with the intention of raising sufficient money to pay off the mortgage on his place. Well, he has done so; he has not only paid off his own mortgage, but the mortgages of all his neighbors.

"Although these creeks are rich, and as I have told you more men have made homestakes there than anywhere else in the world, I do not wish you to look only on the bright side of the picture. An American, from Seattle, came in June, 1896, to the Forty Mile, with his wife, with the intention of bettering his condition. They went out again last July with $52,000. I was well acquainted with this man, a very decent, intelligent chap. He told me one day that if he could remain in that country from three to five years and go out with $5,000, he would consider himself in great luck. He has come out with $52,000, and after prospecting his claim at both ends and a little in the middle, he concludes that there is $1,500,000 in it.

"On the other hand, an old Scotchman by the name of Marks has been in there for eleven years. I have known him well, and once when he was sick last fall I happened to ask him how old he was. Sixty-three years, he said. Then I asked him how long he had been mining. His reply was forty-two years—in all parts of the world except in Australia. In answer to a question as to whether he had never made his stake, he told me he had never yet made more than a living, and often that was a very scanty one. This, of course, is the opposite experience, but I could quote scores of similar cases, so that I would not have you look too much on the bright side.

"There are men in that country who are poor and who will remain so. It has not been their 'luck,' as they call it, to strike it rich, but I may say that that country offers to men of great fortitude, steadiness and some intelligence, an opportunity to make more money in a given time than they could possibly make anywhere else. You have, of course, a good deal to contend with; your patience will be sorely tried, for the conditions are so unique that they have surprised many who have gone in hopefully, and have left in disgust. But while this is the case, there are many obstacles and disagreeable conditions in connection with prospecting.

"First, a few words about mosquitoes. During the summer, and until September, they are a veritable plague. They seem to feed on smoke. And as to fire—they appear to revel in it. The only way to escape them is to cover one's self with mosquito netting. Indeed, is is impossible to prospect in the summer time unless a man be an old miner and well hardened, for all day long, and twenty-four hours in the day, those mosquitoes are after you. It is no use trying to get rid of them. Of course they are not an annoyance in the winter time, but while we have no mosquitoes then, I will, on the other hand, show you what you may expect in the way of temperature. I have made some extracts from my meteorological records, which I will here present. They

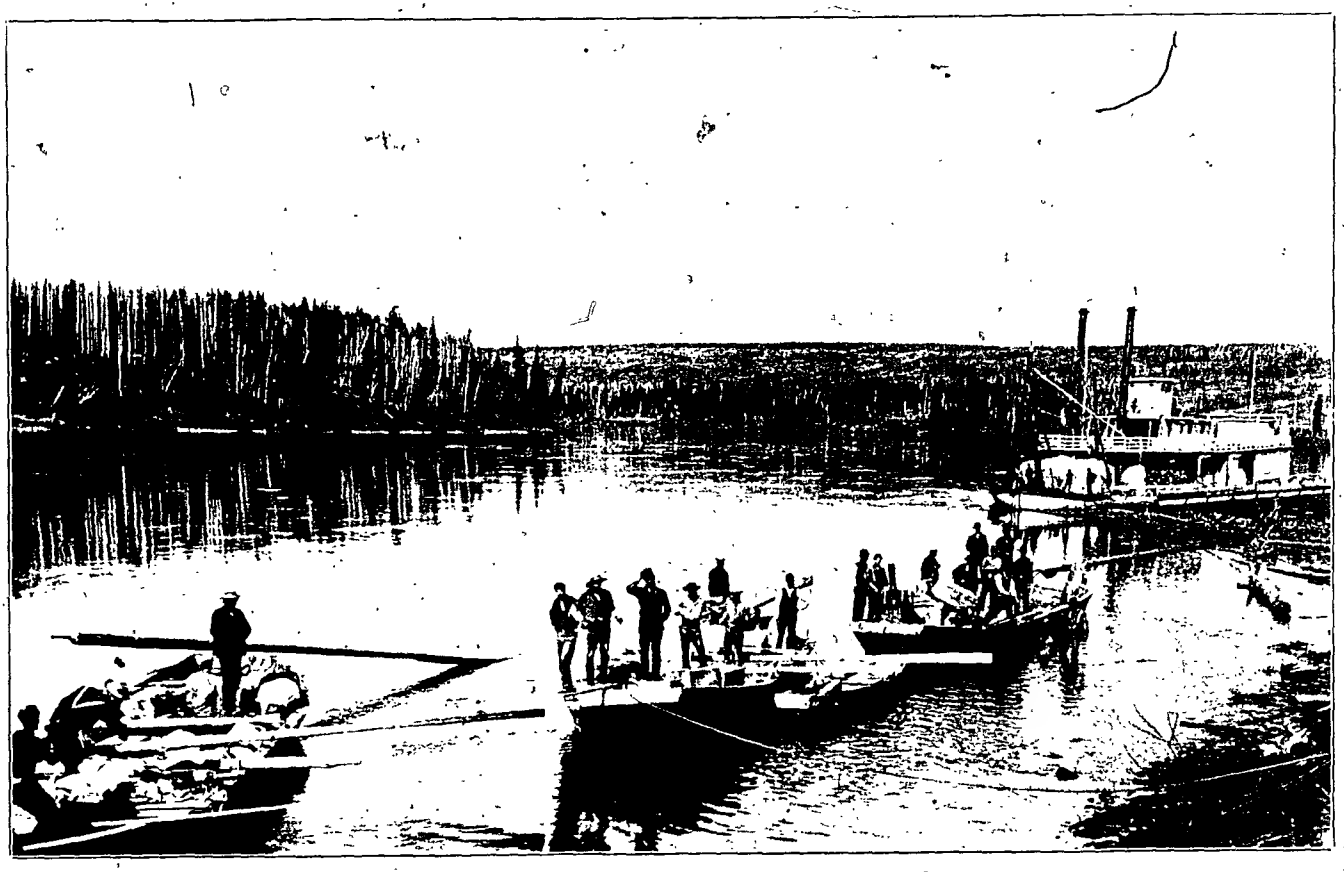
cover the period from August, 1895, to November, 1896, and show the highest and lowest temperatures reached, as follows:

1895.

August	Thermometer:	32 and below— 6 Times.
		40 " " —11 "
September		32 " " —18 "
		40 " " —26 "
October		32 " " —28 "
		40 " " —31 "
	Lowest, 25th:	12.6.
	First snow, 4th.	
	Snowed—7 days.	
November	Thermometer	32 and below—30 Times.
		0 " " —11 "
	Lowest, 15th:	-36.4.
	Highest, 7th	38°.
	Snowed on five days	
December	Thermometer:	0 and below—31 Times.
		-40 " " — 3 "
		-30 " " — 5 "
	Lowest, 24th:	-55.5.
	Highest, 14th:	6°.
		0 and above—7 times.
	Snowed on six days.	

1896.

January	Thermometer:	0 and above— 1 Times.
		-30 " " —23 "
		-40 " " —15 "
		-50 " " —12 "
		-60 " " — 7 "
	Lowest, 26th:	-68.5.
	Highest, 29th:	6°.
	Mean minimum temperature—42°.	
	Mean maximum temperature—33°.	
	Snowed on four days.	
February	Thermometer:	0 and below—28 Times.
		-30 " " —.1 "
		-40 " " —10 "
		-50 " " — 2 "
		-60 " " —2 "
	Lowest:	-34.5.
	Highest, 20th:	-32°.
		-32 and above—7 times.
March	Thermometer.	0 and below—19 Times.
		-30 " " — 1 "
		0 " above—31 "
		32 " " —.5 "
	Lowest, 20th:	-37.2.
	Highest, 13th:	40°.
	Snowed on five days.	
April	Thermometer:	0 and below—15 Times
		20 " " — 8 "
		32 " above— 5 "
		0 " " —29 "
		20 " " — 1 "
	Lowest, 5th:	-38.2.
	Highest, 16th:	49°.
	Snowed on four days.	
	Rained on two days.	



MINERS LEAVING ATHABASCA LANDING FOR THE NORTH.

May. .....Thermometer: 32 and below—18 Times.
40 " above—27 "
50 " " —21 "
60 " " — 5 "
Lowest, 1st, 2d and 3d: –5°.
Highest, 18th and 23d: 62°.
Snowed on one day.
Rained on four days.

Forty Mile River broke up on the 11th.

Yukon River broke up on the 17th, and ran thickly with ice until the 23rd; first boat came down that afternoon.

June.....Thermometer: 32 and below— 4 Times.
40 " " —17 "
40 " above—30 "
50 " " —30 "
60 " " —22 "
70 " " —15 "
*80 " " — 1 "

*On the 30th, which was the highest reading for the month.
Rained on twelve days.

July.....Thermometer: 32 and below— 0 Times.
40 " " — 9 "
40 " above—31 "
50 " " —31 "
60 " " —30 "
70 " " —17 "
80 " " — 2 "
Lowest, 27th: 33°.
Highest, 1st and 2nd: 81°.
Rained on three days.

August.....Thermometer. 32 and below—32 Times.
40 " " —13 "
40 " above—31 "
50 " " —31 "
60 " " —21 "
70 " " — 7 "
Lowest, 31st: 27.2.
Highest, 14th: 76°.
Rained on eight days.

September.....Thermometer: 20 and below— 3 Times.
32 " " — 8 "
40 " " —23 "
40 " above—26 "
50 " " —25 "
60 " " — 8 "
Lowest, 30th: 4.8.
Highest, 17th: 63°.
Snowed on two days.
Rained on two days.

Ice in the river on the 28th, which ran until the 13th of October, when it cleared out and ran clear until the 29th of October, but Forty Mile remained more or less frozen.

October.....Thermometer: 20 and below—15 Times.
32 " " —26 "
0 " " — 2 "
32 " above—16 "
40 " " — 8 "
50 " " — 2 "

October ....Lowest, 6th: 1°.
Highest, 10th and 19th: 51°.
Ice began running in the river again after clearing out as before stated.
Snowed none.
Rained on one day.
November.....Thermometer: 20. and below—30 Times.
0 " " —22 "
–10 " " —13 "
–20 " " —12 "
–30 " " — 7 "
Lowest, 29th: 38°.
Highest, 2nd: 22.5.
Snowed on six days.
Ice set in the Yukon on the 5th.

"That makes a record from which may be obtained an idea of the temperatures. These temperatures show that it can never be an agricultural country, for the thermometer sinks so often below –40, at which temperature vegetable development comes to a standstill, that only the commonest garden produce, such as radishes, lettuce, small cabbages and small turnips, attain sufficient size for use. I know one man at Forty Mile who had a little farm on which he grew potatoes and other vegetables, a quarter of a mile from the boundary line. He was such a patriotic Yankee that he would not live in Canada under any considerations, so when he found that Forty Mile was in the Dominion, he moved up the river as he thought a quarter of a mile on the Alaskan side of the boundary. However, when I surveyed the line I found that he was only 150 yards outside of Canada, and my line actually took a small piece off his potato patch. He remarked that I came 'pooty near takin' his potato patch.' I said, 'yes—but would potatoes not grow just as well in Canada as in Alaska?'

"'Course they would,' he replied. 'Course they would.'

"Then he added: 'I've no objection to living in Canada. Why, I've spent the best part of my life in British territory. I mined for years in Cariboo and Cassiar. Why, Victoria was my headquarters. You must have heard about that big spree I had there once. They said I spent five thousand dollars in three weeks. That's a —— lie. It was only sixteen hundred.'

"After finishing my work on the boundary line, and on my return to Forty Mile, I had to pass this same old gentleman's cabin, where I remained over night. In the morning as I was packing up, I found a bottle with a small glassful of whisky in it, and I determined to try if his patriotism was proof against his appetite, so I said, 'Mr. Patch, I've a glass of whisky here that I'll give you on conditions.'

"'What are they?' said he.

"'That you drink the Queen's health.'

"'I'll do it,' he said eagerly.

"So I handed him the bottle, which he raised and said, 'Here's to Queen Victoria and all her subjects.'

"'God bless her,' said I.

"'God bless her,' said he, with great emphasis, and swallowed the liquor with very great satisfaction, smacking his lips and remarking, 'That's good whisky—where did it come from?'

"I answered, 'from Canada, where everything is good."

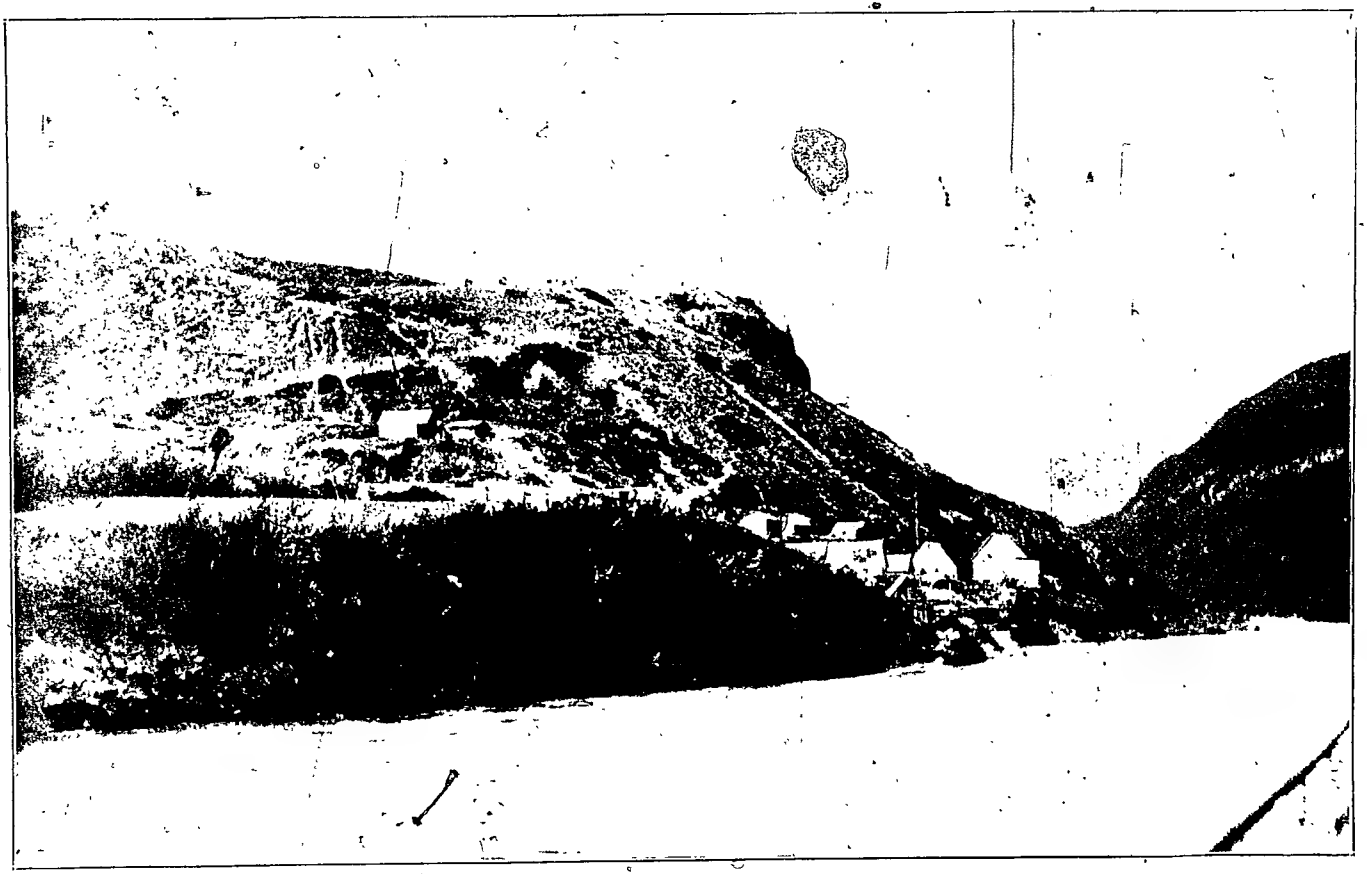
"'Well,' he said, 'I guess you're pooty near right there.'

"This old gentleman informed me that he had tried for several years in succession to grow potatoes on the south side of Forty Mile, but they were invariably killed by frost. He then sought a nook on the hills on the north side of the river, where the sun did not get around to them until towards noon. This prevented their being killed by too rapid thawing out by the direct rays of the sun. They were gently thawed out in the shade before the strong sun-heat fell on them, and thus survived the action of the frost.

"'I tell you I'd rather have a good potato patch than a mine in this country,' said Mr. Patch, 'when you can get two bits a pound for them.'

"These potatoes develop sufficiently to reproduce, but are watery and bad tasting. He did me the honor to cook me some out of those he had preserved for seed, and I ate them because he had cooked them, not for the pleasure it gave me. At Forty Mile they grow potatoes in a couple of gardens which were better tasting, having suffered less from the action of the frost, the smoky atmosphere of the town preventing the radiation of heat during the night to the same extent as it does in the outlying places. They also grow radishes, turnips, lettuce and small cabbages, which taste well but would not take a prize at an agricultural exhibition. The Alaska Commercial Company has had a couple of acres under cultivation in the vicinity of Forty Mile for several years. On this they have sown oats, but they never ripened. Good fodder for cattle could be had in this way by importing barley and oats, but the seed would have to be brought in every season as there is no kernel in the pod or shell. To those contemplating taking horses or cattle into the country for other purposes than slaughter, I would say, go in a couple of years in advance—get a favorable piece of land; clear it, and prepare for the cultivation of such fodder as this. Otherwise you will have to import all the fodder you require. Horses have been in use at Forty Mile for several years now, but the owners depend largely on the trading companies for the food for their subsistence. Mr. Harper has had several horses at Selkirk for a number of years, the fodder for which he cuts from ponds in the vicinity. On this they pull through the winter, but they are not in a condition to do any work. Mr. Harper also has a small garden at Selkirk, in which he cultivates potatoes of fair quality. To preserve them from frost he has made a large blanket, as it might be termed—made out of heavy ticking. Every evening when the sky is clear and frost threatens, he suspends this just over the potato tops. This to a very great degree subdues the intensity of the frost in its action upon the potatoes, but does not entirely save them. At Sixty Mile also he has a small garden on which pretty fair potatoes are grown. This spot is more favorably situated than is the other locality mentioned, as the tubers are closer to the bank of the river with a warmer, sandy soil. The farming area is, however, very small in comparison with the surface of the country, being entirely limited to the river bottoms, so that all vegetable food must be taken into the country as it cannot be grown there except at an enormous cost, and therefore will not pay.

"For animal food there is the caribou and the moose, but the moose are never nearer than thirty or forty miles of the mines, so that it takes two or three days going from the camps to hunt them. There are, too, white mountain sheep—pure white in color, but otherwise resembling very much in appearance the grey one found in more southern latitudes, but with a finer horn, more



STICKINE RIVER — TELEGRAPH CREEK VILLAGE — TAKEN FROM DECK OF HUDSON'S BAY STEAMER CALEDONIA.

nicely curved. The caribou, although they roam over the hills in vast herds, are migratory in their nature and are rarely found two successive seasons in the same place. In the fall of 1895, a large herd came down to the Yukon River, near our camp, adjacent to the boundary. Out of this herd I shot six in a little more than as many seconds, and twelve in a few hours. The party killed eighteen that afternoon, which was sufficient for our needs for the winter, and after this we often amused ourselves by stoning them and chasing them from the dooryard. They seem to have no dread of man. This, however, is the case only when they are in great numbers. Singly or when only a few are together they have great caution, and will not let you approach nearer than three or four hundred yards, if they are aware of your presence. They do not seem to have as keen scent as the moose, and rely more upon their eyes than their sense of smell. Hunting the moose is an art which requires considerable cultivation, a great deal of patience, and much endurance. I have known Indians to divest themselves of every vestige of clothing and go barefooted, in order to get near enough to a moose to shoot him. And this too at a time of the year when the mosquitoes where in greatest number. They did this because with clothing they might unwittingly catch a branch, snap it and make a noise; while with their feet covered they might unconsciously put foot on a dry limb, break it, and scare the moose away. This gives a better idea of the acute sense of smell and hearing of the moose than anything else I could say. The natural products of the country as a food supply may be said to be valueless when compared with the demand which will soon exist for it there. It might, indeed, be said that all food will have to be imported. In the river are some small fish resembling the greyling, and the salmon annually make their way up as far as the canon, some two thousand miles from the sea. But long ere this they are pretty well spent. Now where there are plenty of salmon for the native to subsist on for a considerable period of the summer, the salmon is not worthy of note as an item in the food supply which will be required there. It was for years the principal source of dog feed for the Indians, but the last two summers very few have been caught, and the freighters have had to feed their dogs on bacon and flour, the former at thirty to forty cents per pound, and the latter at ten or twelve. I might say for the information of those contemplating using dogs for a journey to that country, that Indian cornmeal, well cooked, with a lump of tallow thrown in and well mixed with it, makes excellent dog feed. One hundred pounds of cornmeal and a pail of tallow will suffice a team of four dogs for a considerable journey. This is not bulky, nor yet very heavy, and it is very convenient, besides which the dogs seem to do well on it. Before the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railroad along the northern shore of Lake Superior, and yet along the north shore of Lake Huron where the local mails have to be transmitted by dog team, this was the dog feed used. At these points other food could readily have been obtained, and the inference is that experience has shown this to be the best. In the way of natural fruits, there is what is known as the high-bush cranberry, in very limited quantities however; an abundance of blueberries on the low, marshy swamps; and also a few swamp cranberries. There are also a very few strawberries in the warm, sheltered nooks where the moss has not covered the surface. The blueberries are the only ones worthy of note, being of sufficient quantity to contribute somewhat to the larder. Out of them a wine is made.

It does not 'fetch drunk,' as the miners say, and consequently it is not much in vogue. The only timber in the country that is fit for mercantile purposes is spruce. There are a few poplars which, however, are generally unfit for anything except fuel. The spruce is soft, weak and full of knots.

"Now let me give you some idea of how things were righted and the law administered in that region before the advent of the mounted police. When I was in the country ten years ago the miners were not very well acquainted with each other, and there being no saloons they attended pretty strictly to business. Consequently there were no rings or cliques formed, and when a miners' meeting was called to adjust any difference or dispute it was generally decided fairly and on its merits. Soon after this saloons were built, liquor came in in large quantities, and a class congregated which might be termed professional loafers. These men were always on hand, and when a miners' meeting was called they attended and voted in the interests of the saloons and their keepers.

"As an instance, a poor little German at Forty Mile was passing quietly along the street one day and a big ruffian, who rather prided himself on his capabilities as a bully, drew out and struck the little man a blow that paralyzed him. He was powerless to help himself; he could not match his strength against that of his assailant, and so he consulted a German friend of his as to what he should do in the matter. The friend suggested a miners' meeting, which was called at once. Now, what do you think this miners' meeting did? As you would probably never guess, I will tell you—they fined the plaintiff $20 for calling the meeting, which was expended for drinks on the spot, the meeting of course being held in the saloon, and the chairman being in fact the proprietor of the place.

"Another instance: Four miners were partners in four claims. These did not return more than expenses and poor wages, and they decided to sell. One of the partners was going to Forty Mile for something or another, and the others instructed him, if he could, to sell out for the whole lot. He asked them what was the lowest they would be willing to take for their interests, so that he might have something to go on. After consultation they decided that five hundred dollars was the least they would be willing to take, but at the same time instructed him to get all that he could. At Forty Mile he sold the four claims for $2,800—$700 apiece. He handed the three partners $500 each, and put the $1,300 in his own pocket. Soon after, they discovered this fact, and called a miners' meeting to make him divide even. The meeting, by resolution, decided that 'as long as they got their $500 apiece, it was none of their —— business what he got.'

'Again, a miner commonly known as French Joe—a French Canadian—was going down 'the creek,' as it is termed, to Forty Mile. While passing the cabin of a man whom we will call Jones, he was hailed and asked where he was going.

"'To Forty Mile,' he said.

"'Well, you're going by Dick Brown's'—another fictitious name—'Will you take down these two ounces and give it to him.'

"'Oui certainement. m'sr.'

"The two ounces were weighed out and handed over to Joe, who carried

them down and faithfully presented them to Brown as directed, with the explanation that they had been received from Jones.

"'But,' remarks Brown, 'that ——— of——— owes me three ounces.'

"Joe was surprised, and a little indignant at his reception.

"'I don't know for dat, he gif me two hounce—der she was. Dat's all I know for.'

"'But he owes me three,' said the persistent Brown——

"'Vell dat may be. She may be he owe you thousand. He give me two hounce—der she is. You got two hounce?'

"'Yes, there's two ounces here.'

"'Vell, dat's all he giv me.'

"'But I want my other ounce.'

"'Vell, sacr-r-r-c'—the Frenchman was becoming warm—'perhaps next time, you see him you ask him about her. I giv you two hounce—dat's all I got.'

"Brown calls a miners' meeting to decide whether or not Joe shall pay him the extra ounce. Eighty-two miners attended, and after much discussion, in which Brown admits having received the two ounces from Joe, six voted that the Frenchman should pay the extra ounce, and five that he should not. The rest, as Joe explained, 'didn't give a dam no how—one way or de other."

"So the Frenchman was compelled to pay the extra ounce with the costs of the meeting added, amounting to nearly $150. Joe remarked to me afterwards in telling me the tale of his misfortune:

"'By Gar—dat satisfy me with miners' meetings. I don't want any more dem things.'

"What first brought the miners' meetings into disrepute was the result of one held at Forty Mile in June, 1896. A tailor there had demanded payment of a bill of $4.50 from a barber. The barber put in a counter claim which fully paid the tailor's bill. The tailor called a miners' meeting to decide between them.

"The meeting adjudged the tailor $1.50, and one of its members then gravely proposed that he be fined $20.00 for calling the meeting. This was just about to pass unanimously, as things usually do at a miners' meeting, it being sufficient only to have a mover and a seconder, when another member stood up and protested against this action, urging that if they fined a man for calling a meeting, the poor man would have no way at all to get justice. They had awarded the man $1.50, and the imposition of a fine would be manifestly unfair. The meeting saw the force of this and let him go.

"The barber then rose, and slowly, deliberately and with a picturesque profuseness of profanity and an eloquence of metaphor that did credit to his originality, requested all and sundry present to go —— not to any more frigid clime. He would go down the river on the under-side of a log, he observed, if the worst came to the worst—but as for that dollar and a half, they could ——— ! ! * *

"A committee was forthwith appointed to try and collect the amount adjudged due. They could, however, find no one who owed the barber anything, or if he did, was willing to pay it over to them. It was well known that if they tried to enforce payment from the barber he would apply to the mounted police for protection, and of course their action in so doing would be



FOUR MEN HITCHED TO CART, FORDING DYEA RIVER.

punishable. The absurdity of the situation dawned on the parties to the affair, and miners' meetings fell below par.

"This and similar cases brought the miners' meetings into such contempt that all in the country were quite ready to join in their obsequies. I do not think that at present you could induce anyone to call a miners' meeting on any account. All seem to be heartily glad that they have been abolished, and many miners have expressed to me their gratification at the way in which law and order are administered in Canada. They seem to be particularly pleased with the fact that a man's just rights do not depend upon his personal popularity—that his tender to his claim is not based on the number of times he treats when near the saloon—nor yet upon the quantity of whisky he drinks, or any kindred merit, but simply and purely on his just and legal rights whether or not all in the country are his friends, or all his enemies.

"I came a good deal in contact with these men during my work about the creeks, settled many of the disputes arising between them, adjusted many differences—and everywhere and every time they had the highest respect for the law. Never but once was anything unkind or uncomplimentary said about what was done, and in that case the offender soon after offered a most ample apology. I think I can safely assert that, taken as a whole, there is no more lawlessness or disorder in the minds of the miners of that district than there is in the minds of the citizens of our most highly civilized communities in this favored land.

"In conclusion let me say that we have in the far north land, a vast region, comprising from 90,000 to 100,000 square miles of untold possibilities. Rich deposits we know exist in it, and for aught we know many more equally rich may be found. We know now that there is sufficient to supply a population of a hundred thousand people, and I look forward to seeing that number of people in that country within the next ten years. It is a vast inheritance. Let us use it as becomes Canadians—intelligently, liberally, and in the way best to advance our country, Canada. Let us use it as becomes the offspring of the Mother of Nations."

FOOD SUPPLIES, ETC.

For the information of those who have never been in that country I give some notes on the amount of provisions required, first stating that you will require at least 50 per cent. more in that region than you would in a more southern latitude. The cold suffered (often intense) for at least seven months in the year conduces to a vigorous appetite. This is a provision of nature, for in order to keep warm the human system has to pile on fuel just as much as any other apparatus where heat is required.

All supplies required for the Yukon by persons going in on the Pacific side can be obtained at the cities of Victoria or Vancouver. The merchants at these places have had many years experience in outfitting miners and prospectors,

and know exactly what a man should take with him, according to the conditions under which be is going to travel or work, and know from many years testing, and from the experience of northern explorers who frequent the B. C. cities, what class of goods are more desirable and useful, and those best calculated to complete a traveller's outfit. Many things that are excellent for more southern districts, and which are sometimes sold to inexperienced explorers, are not fitted for the more northern districts of what was once the Hudson Bay Company's territory.

The merchants of these coast cities have studied and are thoroughly familiar with the requirements of the country, for many parts of which, including the Kootenay, the Cassiar mines, and other districts, they have outfitted exploring parties for many years past; by purchasing in either of those two cities for the Pacific journey, a considerable percentage of cost is saved in freight duties, etc. The Canadian customs duties on goods purchased out of the Dominion, range from 25 to 30 per cent. alone, so that aside from the question of paying freight on extra baggage, it is obvious that a considerable saving is made by purchasing necessary outfit in Canada and at the nearest point to the Yukon territory where such supplies can be procured. Those who go into the mountains or into the Yukon from the east side of the Rocky Mountains, across the plains via Calgary and Edmonton, will find the same conditions to apply. The merchants at the principal points have had a wide experience in outfitting people for the mountains. During the past season many have chosen this route, and purchased necessary supplies at Calgary and Edmonton, at both of which towns there are large outfitting establishments. As between the two cities of Calgary and Edmonton a traveller can choose for himself. The cost of the several articles he will require will probably be found, freight included, to be about the same. It will be well to remember, therefore, that it is better that Yukon outfits should be purchased at Victoria or Vancouver, if the purchaser is going in on the Pacific side, and at Calgary or Edmonton, or other Canadian point, if he is proceeding by the plains route. The articles that should be taken are:

Of flour we require at least 450 pounds for a year's consumption. This should be of fairly good grade. It need not necessarily be fine flour, but should be good medium. Oatmeal or rolled oats, 50 pounds; cornmeal, 25 pounds. This latter I do not consider so necessary as oatmeal, as oatmeal is a warming food. Bacon (good fat), 250 pounds; hams, 50 pounds; evaporated dried apples, 25 pounds; dried peaches, 25 pounds, and if you have a fancy for any other kind of dried fruits you can take them along, or substitute them for one or other of the above. Good black tea, 25 pounds. In that country you will find a cup of good, hot, black tea, after a long, cold tramp, very invigorating—in fact, it proves "the cup that cheers but not inebriates." Coffee, 10 pounds; sugar (good granulated), 100 pounds. If you take the ordinary brown sugar, in the winter it freezes into a hard lump and is very difficult to manipulate. Not so with granulated; it remaining dry, of course remains powdered. Beans, 120 pounds. There are several kinds of beans of which you may make choice, according to your taste, but the ordinary bean sold there is the brown bean, about twice the size of the small white one. Pot barley, 10 pounds; rice, 15 pounds; extract of beef, two dozen four-ounce tins. I have found Johnson's Fluid Beef to be very good. Baking powder, 12 or 15 pounds; salt, 30 pounds;

pepper, one pound; mustard, one pound; compressed vegetables, 10 or 12 pounds, depending upon the kind you take. Canned fruits may or may not be taken, but they are bulky and heavy, consequently inconvenient, and in winter a source of trouble in that country, as the contents freeze solid and require a very long time to thaw. You should also take 10 or 15 or more pounds of baking soda, as you may think necessary. In case of scurvy one might provide lime juice, more or less as their taste suggests, but the dried fruits already named are antiscorbutic in their action, and if we wish to make further provision in that direction we might take two or three dozen tins of good orange marmalade, and a similar quantity of strawberry or raspberry jam. These, as put up by some firms, are very good. Dried potatoes are put up in several forms and are good; 25 or 30 pounds of these should be taken. Other vegetables are put up also from which you may select as you fancy, but you should take the above quantity of potatoes and 8 or 10 pounds of dried onions. Take along also a few dozen yeast cakes, you may have a chance to use them once in awhile, and their weight and cost are trifling. For convenience I recapitulate, in list form:

Flour	450 pounds	Extract beef, say	6 pounds.
Oatmeal	50 "	Baking powder	12 "
Cornmeal	25 "	Salt	30 "
Bacon (good, fat)	250 "	Pepper	1 "
Hams	50 "	Mustard	1 "
Evaporated dried apples	25 "	Compressed vegetables	12 "
Dried peaches	25 "	Canned fruits, say	30 "
Tea	25 "	Jams in tins, 1 lb. each	24 "
Coffee	10 "	Baking soda	10 "
Sugar	100 "	Potatoes and onions	35 "
Beans	120 "		
Barley (pot)	10 "	Total weight	1,319 pounds.
Rice	15 "		

This will prove ample and to spare for any healthy, vigorous man, work as hard as he may, but it is well to have a little too much rather than too little. It is well also to bear in mind that there is much waste connected with the ordinary transport and use of provisions under the conditions generally attending prospecting and the cooking incidental to it. It will be noticed that the above list contains no canned meats. These are sometimes convenient when making a journey, and their use is largely a matter of taste. Some relish them, while others have "no use" for them. In this line, as in some other matters, each will consult his own tastes and means. Packed in tins as they are, they are somewhat inconvenient to pack, and the tin adds considerably to the weight. For preservation it is absolutely necessary that the stuff be hermetically sealed. It is a pity some more convenient mode of putting up were not adopted, lessening the weight, while not risking spoiling by contact with the air. The cost of this outfit will, of course, vary considerably, according to time and place of purchase, but in any of the cities or towns where you are likely to purchase, all your requirements will likely cost no more than $200.00, and may be less. At the prices ruling on the Yukon, it will be more than double that; $450.00 is rated as a fair "grub stake," that is your requirement for one year.

The following list and prices are furnished by an Edmonton firm, subject, of course, to fluctuations in the ruling prices elsewhere, which will not, however,



AT FORT WRANGEL, ALASKA — A PARTY OF MINERS STARTING FOR KLONDIKE.

affect the gross amount very much. Taken as a whole the amount will not differ much from the same list at other points.

4 sacks flour, 98 lbs. each	$ 10 00
20 lbs. corn meal	70
40 lbs. rolled oats	1 30
25 lbs. I. rice	1 75
100 lbs. beans	4 50
75 lbs. G. sugar	4 87
75 lbs. evap. apricots, peaches and apples	10 25
6 pkgs. yeast cakes	50
20 lbs. candles	3 00
150 lbs. bacon	16 50
25 lbs. butter	3 75
10 lbs. baking powder	2 50
3 pkgs. soda	30
20 lbs. salt	40
1 lb. pepper	25
½ lb. mustard	25
½ lb. G. Ginger	25
10 pkgs. evap. vegetables	2 00
2 doz. condensed milk	4 50
10 lbs. tea	4 00
25 lbs. coffee	10 00
½ doz. Abbey's effervsce't salt	3 60
Laundry soap	1 00
Matches	80
Evap. potatoes and onions	4 00
2 pair heavy blankets	14 00
2 suits underwear	5 00
2 cottonade shirts	1 50
2 sweaters	3 00
1 heavy suit	7 50
1 pair pants	2 00
1 pair overalls	1 25
1 Mackinaw suit	10 00
2 pair Arctic sox	1 50
6 pair wool sox	1 50
2 pair mitts	1 00
2 pair moccasins	3 00
3 towels	75
1 pair rubber boots, hip	5 00
1 pair laced boots, miner's	5 00
Mosquito net	50
	$ 153 07

Brought forward	$ 153 07
Buttons, needles and thread	25
1 camp cook stove	5 00
1 gold pan	75
1 knife and fork	15
3 spoons	5
1 large granite spoon	15
1 large fork	10
1 granite cup	15
1 granite plate	15
1 whet stone	10
1 pick and handle	1 25
1 hatchet and handle	75
1 axe and handle	1 25
1 whip saw	9 00
1 X-cut saw	3 50
1 hand saw	1 00
1 L. H. shovel	1 00
20 lb. nails	1 00
2 files	40
1 draw knife	75
1 plane	90
Brace and bits	2 00
3 chisels	75
1 butcher knife	25
1 compass	50
Rope	1 50
1 fry pan	25
1 hammer	50
1 auger	65
1 bake kettle	1 50
1 best copper kettle	6 00
1 steel pail	75
1 granite wash basin	40
1 candle lantern	35
1 lb. quicksilver	90
1 pair goggles	25
1 caulking iron	75
10 lbs. pitch	1 00
15 lbs. oakum	2 00
Sundries	2 18
	$ 203 20

A few words on packing or putting up the goods for transport may be of use to many. Flour should be put in a good sack, fifty pounds in a sack; two of those are then put into a good strong gunny sack. For ordinary transport this is not more than enough, and for prospecting tours one of the fifty-pound sacks inside the gunny sack will be found quite sufficient. Sugar, beans, rice, barley meal and bacon may be packed in the same way, with advantage.

I would not recommend oiled cotton for covering, the oiling seems to rot the cotton fibre and render it easily torn, besides in cold weather it is as brittle as glass, and the result is we have no covering at all in a few days.

The gunny cloth, if good and heavy, will exclude quite a lot of rain. In the case of flour a thin layer of it will get wet and form a dough which excludes water almost perfectly; that amount of flour is, of course, lost, but that is provided for in the amount above given. In wet weather sugar will have to be carefully looked after, as once wet the action seems to continue until the whole is converted into syrup if the temperature permits, and if it does not it is frozen into a mass as hard as rock. These remarks may be in a good degree applied to salt, and I would say emphatically, look after your sugar and salt. Compressed tea offers the advantage of less bulk, and if it is not taken, get tea put up in pound tins as some of it used to be. This is convenient in use, as only a small quantity of it is opened at one time, and we obviate deterioration of a large amount of it through exposure.

The other articles may be packed in cases for transport into the country, and then put up to suit convenience. Care should be exercised that none of the cases weigh much over one hundred pounds until we have better transport facilities than at present exist. That is about all the ordinary untrained man wants to handle, and for some months to come there will be much manual labor in connection with transport there.

Bedding and other things of that kind one will have to provide as suits his peculiar needs.

In the way of clothing, the principal difference between that country and this is that one requires much heavier underclothing. The ordinary woolen garments, such as worn by lumbermen and others in this climate, are sufficiently heavy for that, except when traveling on the open or on the rivers, in which case some soft fur is necessary, more especially if it is blowing. Ordinary woolen coats will not keep out the winds, and when the thermometer is 40 or 50 below zero, and a twenty to thirty mile wind blowing, one is not very long exposed before considerable suffering ensues. Good heavy woolen mitts, with a pair of deerskin mitts over them, is all that is required. In the way of bedding a good heavy fur blanket is almost indispensable; ordinary woolen blankets, no matter how many one has, will not keep warm. But in this there is a wide latitude, depending on differences of physical constitution. I have seen two men in the same tent, at the same time, with the same amount of bedding, one sleepless from cold and the other comfortable; hence, as I said before, each will have to determine for himself as suits his temperament; of course the less one can do with the more convenient it is.

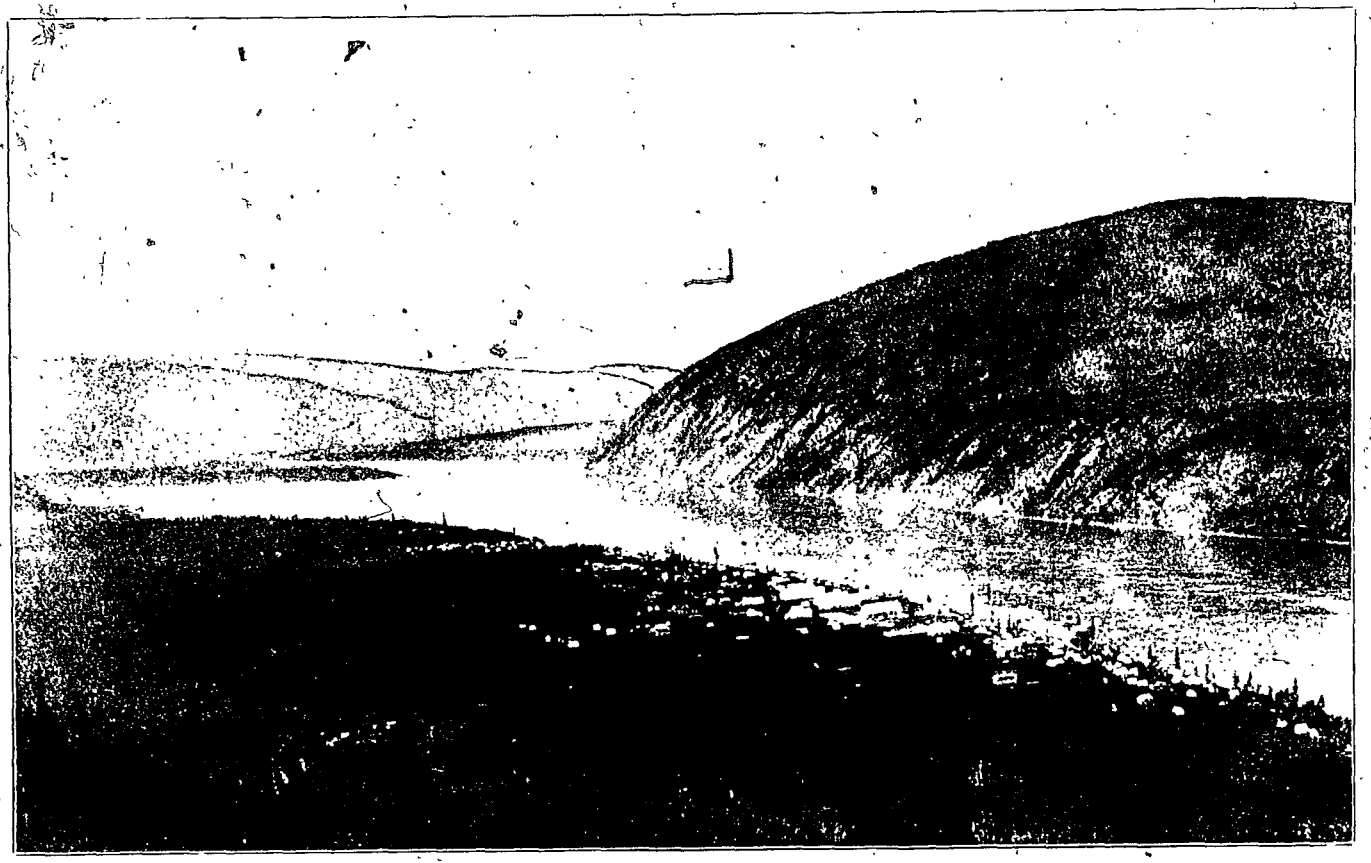
Blankets have been made in that country of fox, lynx, wolf and bearskin. They are very expensive, costing from $60 to $120, depending upon the nature of the fur and the size of the blanket. In the future, however, they are absolutely out of the question, for the supply of fur there is constantly diminishing, and it is only a question of a year or two until none will be found in the vicinity of the diggings, nor anywhere near them. These should be procured, if possible, here. Lynx makes a very durable, light, warm blanket, and I would recommend it above all others on account of its lightness and warmth. Fox is good, but not so durable as lynx. Wolf is also good, but heavier, and not so warm as lynx, and the same may be said of bearskin. I have no doubt that necessity will induce manufacturers to devise some cheap substitute for fur. Sleeping bags are made which will be useful and comfortable. Of these I would say, choose the one that gives you the most thickness between you and

the ground, of course not neglecting the covering. Often in winter, when camping out, more cold is felt from below than above. Waterproof clothing is not suitable for that country in the winter. The intense frosts so harden it that it cracks, and soon breaks into pieces. A good, large raccoon skin overcoat is very desirable. It is cheap and durable. While traveling in cold winter weather, your knees will give you more trouble than any other part of the body. I have found a fur covering for them resembling a section of the leg of a pants, about one foot long, and fastened to your under garment so as to cover the knee, is all that is required. Whatever material is used it should be wind-proof and thick. The other things that one may require will have to suggest themselves to each one for himself, but too much need not be taken. Do not load yourself down with extras. Rubber boots are indispensable during the spring, summer and fall months. These can be procured in the country at from $10 to $14 per pair—that is, miners' boots, which come up the full length of the leg. Shorter ones cost less, of course. These may be taken as they can be procured cheaper, but there is nearly always a good assortment on hand at the trading points.

In the way of hardware one requires a couple of good chopping axes. Axes are sold with a double bit—that is, a double-edged axe of which one may be kept in fair order for chopping and the other used for rougher work. A brace and set of bits is indispensable, ranging from one-quarter to one and one-half inches in size. Hammer and wire nails, different sizes, are also indispensable; the more you can take of these the better, but of course the quantity will have to be regulated by your transport facilities. A small hand-saw is absolutely necessary, with an assortment of screw nails of different sizes, and suitable screw drivers, and a one or one and one-quarter inch auger will prove very useful. A miners' pick is also indispensable, and a miners' shovel. Of rope we require twenty-five or thirty pounds of assorted sizes, from one-quarter inch up to one inch, and if we contemplate building a boat for ourselves, a whipsaw, oakum and pitch. Of the latter, ten to twenty pounds may be taken and five to ten of the oakum. The other articles of hardware, such as dishes, knives, forks, spoons, kettles, etc., each one will have to select for himself. His supply should be based on his prospecting intentions and the length of time he expects to be absent from points of trade.

A rifle and shotgun may prove useful and are a sort of necessity, but as a rule they prove of very little use, as game is seldom met with, and what little there is, one has no time to follow. Hunting is an art which requires long experience to develop. Occasionally one obtains a shot at a moose or cariboo, but these are often accidental, and your gun may be carried for years without benefitting you one dollar. Still, by all means take them along. You may require them, you never know when, and when you do require them you require them in earnest. Fishing hooks and lines may be taken, but of these it may be said as of the guns.

Needles, thread, and yard and cloth for mending and patching are required, of course, and each one will have to determine for himself the amount he needs. You cannot make a mistake by taking more than you actually contemplate using, as the weight and bulk is unimportant. A small medicine chest is imperative. For contents of this I would suggest medical advice. What would suit one, another would not require, and each will have to have determined for him-



DAWSON CITY.

self and for his peculiar case just what he should take. Paper, envelopes, pens, ink and pencils are necessary, as you should never neglect to write whenever possible; by all means keep up the connection with home. If you can procure powders for making ink take them, as most of the inks sold are injured by frost, beside the liability to break your bottle when it does freeze.

A pocket compass is useful, and if you take one take a good one, with a needle not less than an inch and a-half to two inches in length, and when selecting take the needle which takes the longest time to settle after being put oscillating. The one which settles quickly is useless. It may be stated generally that the magnetic needle points east of true north from thirty-two and one-half degrees at Lake Lyndeman to thirty-six degrees at the boundary.

In moving about the country a boat is absolutely necessary. There are no regular lines of steamers on the main river at present, though possibly there may be the coming season, and if there are they will only take us along the main stream from one of the minor streams to another, as we may desire. Landed at the mouth of a small stream, we require some sort of a boat to make progress in. Now boats made there are necessarily heavy and imperfect in construction, also of bad form. I would advise taking some light, easily portable boat from here or elsewhere, as one may procure it easiest and best. In my opinion the best boat for general use in that country is of the canoe form, many of which are built in the Province of Ontario and elsewhere. The pattern I would suggest is commonly known as the Peterborough, or Rice Lake canoe, of which many kinds are made. Bass wood is the best wood for all around use. I give the dimensions of some of them.

A 17-foot canoe, 41 inches wide and 17 inches deep, will weigh about 130 or 140 pounds when dry. This canoe will carry twelve or fourteen hundredweight, and two or three men. Of course this will load it pretty well, and if your load is bulky it requires some experience to stow it away in a boat of that size. Practice soon overcomes this.

An 18-foot canoe, 43 inches wide and 18 inches deep, will weigh a little more, and carry a hundred or two hundred more pounds easily.

A 19-foot canoe, 46 or 47 inches wide and 18 inches deep, will weigh when dry about 175 or 180 pounds; and will easily and safely carry eighteen or twenty hundredweight and two or three men.

Larger ones are made of which I give some figures:

Length.	Width.	Depth.	Weight.	Capacity.	Price.
21 feet	49 inches	18 inches	135 lbs.	2200 lbs.	$51.00 to $57.00
22 "	50 "	18 "	140 "	2500 "	54.00 to 60.00
23 "	51 "	18 "	145 "	2700 "	57.00 to 63.00
24 "	52 "	18 "	150 "	2900 "	60.00 to 66.00
		ANOTHER MAKE.			
23 "	50 "	24 "	275 "	2850 at 12" draft / 5120 at 20" draft	cost.....$58.00
25 "	50 "	24 "	300 "	3200 at 12" draft / 5600 at 20" draft	cost.....$60.00
30 "	50 "	24 "	350 "	3800 at 12" draft / 6500 at 20" draft	cost.....$75.00

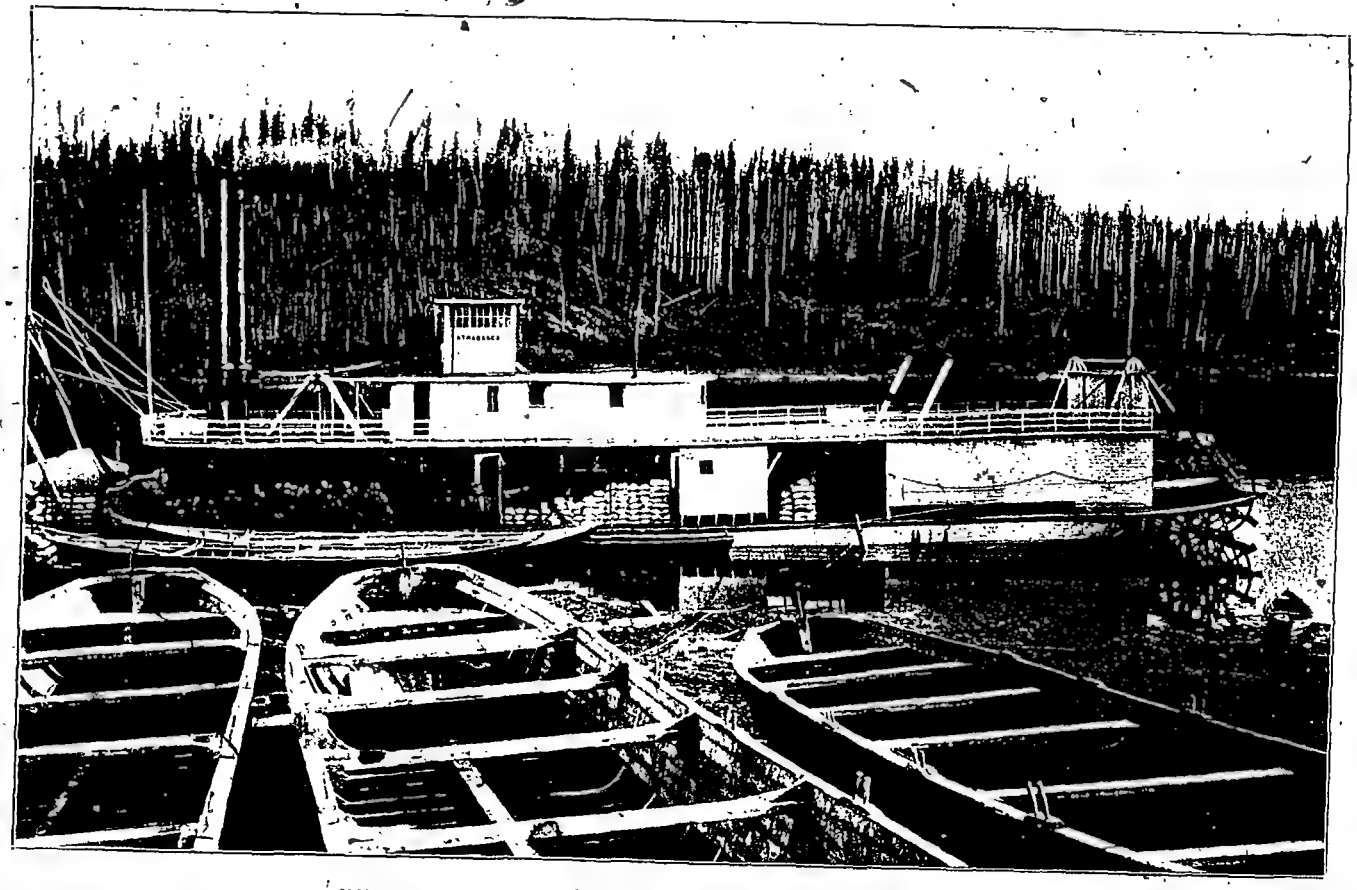
The above weights were furnished me by the makers. The weights in the paragraphs preceding the list are from my own observation after the canoe had

been used awhile. In actual use the water the wood absorbs will increase it 10 to 20 pounds.

The freight rates on those canoes, from where they are made in Ontario to Vancouver, is about $2.65 per 100 pounds space weight, with a minimum weight charge of 800 pounds, or, in other words, you are charged for the space the boat occupies. Now, by nesting them, that is, taking several of the different sizes, the smaller ones inside the larger ones, say a 22-foot, 21-foot, 19-foot, and 18-foot, space weight, crate and all, about the limit—800 pounds—costs $21.20, or about $5.30 each. If you wish to pay for actual weight the charge is about $10.50 per 100 pounds. Nesting is by far the best way to send them, and large parties going can have their canoes put up that way with lessened risk in transport, and less cost than if sent singly. This I would advise to be done. In ordering a canoe, order with an 18 or 19-foot canoe five or six good, specially heavy paddles, not less than 5 feet 9 inches long. If any of the makers manufacture poles for poling, I would advise those to be taken along too. They should be made of good, straight-grained white ash or other light, strong wood, from 8 to 10 feet in length, about 1½ inches thick at the lower end or point, tapering to about 1¼ or 1⅛ at the top on which a round knob should be left, say 1½ inches in diameter. The point should have a socket steel point put on over the wood and fastened to it with a screw, so as to be easily taken off. These will prove convenient on our journeys for other uses than poling, and much more durable and handy than any we may get in the country. Also procure a canvas cover of sufficient size to cover the canoe completely, so made that it can be fastened down when necessary and prevent wind blowing it away. This may be ordered from the makers with advantage, they having the benefit of their own and others' experience. It will prove very useful, and often save us unloading our boat during a rainy period. Down stream in one of these boats is easy work. In making our way up stream we have to resort generally to poling or tracking, as the current is generally too swift to be surmounted by paddling. Poles can be got in the country, but if they can be procured at the makers, as above stated, by all means take them. Unless they are iron-shod they soon what is called "brush" at the point—that is, the soft wood bruises and get brushy. This has to be cut off from time to time, and the pole is soon reduced in length by this constant wearing. By all means get them iron pointed, or steel is still better. Several kinds of points are made, but a good blacksmith will easily and quickly turn out a half-dozen or more socket points to be fastened on with a screw or nail at very little expense, and any kind, so long as it covers the end of the pole, and is capable of being securely fastened to it, is good enough.

In poling the boat or canoe, the poler stands up, puts the end of his pole to the bottom and shoves on it, the man in the stern steering the canoe as may be desired while still shoving. To the uninitiated this is a very difficult and laborious work, but a little practice soon gets one into the knack of it, and it is wonderful how a boat can be propelled by two or three men who are accustomed to this work. As much as thirty or thirty-five miles per day has been done, but the unaccustomed would probably tire themselves out in one-third of that. Where the water is deep, that is, more than three feet, which is a fair depth, or where the bottom is too soft for poling, as in mud the pole sinks into it and is difficult to withdraw, in fact, the withdrawal often nullifies the effect

of the push and the boat stands still, and the beach is suitable for walking on, we resort to tracking,—that is, a small, strong line is attached to the side of the boat some three to six feet from the bow; another line, called a bridle, is fastened to the bow and to the hauling line four or more feet forward from where it is attached to the boat. If this line is properly attached the boat will steer itself. The hauling line being attached to the side of the boat tends to draw the bow out so that she will run across stream, but the bridle counteracts this, and with proper adjustment the result is that the boat follows along a few feet out from the shore. It requires very little attention from the man steering—in fact, the only attention he bestows on it is to see that it avoids rocks, trees and other obstacles along the beach, and in rounding points he has to manipulate the boat to keep her away from the point. This is by far the easier mode of taking a boat up stream. Two men hauling on a line on a fair beach will walk from two and a half to three miles per hour, if they so desire, and haul the boat up bad places with comparative ease. I have seen a boat taken up a pretty steep rapids in this way at a good smart rate. After the pair on the line have kept up this gait for half an hour or an hour they become warm and somewhat tired. With a party of four the two in the boat change places with those on the line, taking a similar spell as it is called, and those on the line take their places in the boat. When the last two become tired and warm they take a spell in the boat again, and so on. Thus between hauling and resting they can keep up a good smart gait without fatiguing themselves very much. Four lively, good men, along a fair beach, will generally be able to haul a boat or canoe, such as I have described, 25 or 30 miles per day, and at the end not feel nearly so fatigued as paddling or poling would make them. A greater number, of course, will have an easier time, and less a harder time, but two men can do a good day's work in this way. Myself and a man have made 24 miles up stream in a day in this way, and made a survey while doing it. The line should be light and very strong. To haul an 18 or 19 foot canoe of 45 or 48 inch beam, with 10 or 12 hundredweight and two men, the line should not be more than one-eighth of an inch in thickness. Of course, its quality should be first-class. There are lines made which suit this purpose admirably, known as cod-lines. I cannot give the numbers of the various sizes, but simply say a line one-eighth of an inch thick is sufficient to haul a boat of that size with a load anywhere that a boat can be taken. Of course, a heavier boat requires a somewhat heavier line, but I have seen boats 40 to 45 feet long and 9 feet beam, loaded with 8 to 10 tons, drawing two feet of water, hauled up strong currents by a line not more that one-fourth of an inch in thickness. The objection to a heavier line is that its weight sags it, and unless the current is very strong it is continually sinking into the water, which increases its weight. This renders it liable to catch on sticks, tree tops, rocks or other things which are generally found plentifully strewn along the river banks. The men on shore will soon acquire the knack of flinging the line over any obstacle of that kind providing it is not too heavy. A sharp, upward jerk will hoist it feet above anything we desire to avoid if given at the right time. To do this the bow of the canoe should be turned across current just before the line is thrown up. This holds the canoe out against the effect of the pull on the line, often a high tree top or other obstacle can be passed easily by turning the boat out into the current; this runs her up and out, so that if the



HUDSON BAY COMPANY'S STEAMER ATHABASCA LANDING.

obstacle is close to shore it is passed without any attention from the men hauling.

Care should be taken when the boat is running up in an eddy below a point with a swift current rushing past it, to enter the boat or canoe into the current as nearly as possible bow on, and not across the current; by entering this way into the current gradually, no time is lost and no risk is run. I have known several boats to be swamped by running them up the eddy as far as possible, and suddenly turning them into the swift current; the result being the water boiled over the side of the boat and filled her. Had the men given way on the hauling line in time this would not have happened, or had the line parted as a light line would have done, all would have been well. I call particular attention to this and its attendant risks. A little practice will soon enable one to do this. Take plenty of line for that purpose, but do not take it too heavy. As a rule, not less than 60 feet of line should be out even under the best conditions, and in rough water, or along a bad shore, more is required. Not less than 120 feet should be ready for use when required, so fastened that whenever required it can be let out quickly and free from knots and twists. There are several ways of doing this. One is to have the line wound around a reel or bit of board at the front end, which the hauling man can pay out as he deems necessary, and wind in again when he sees fit. Cotton line is unsuitable. The water has a bad effect on it. It soon cuts and rots, and is not so strong as good jute line.

TENTS.

Of course each one has his own idea of a tent, but experience has taught me that the simpler the tent is in construction the better. I would suggest a bell tent not less than ten feet in diameter, with a ten ounce duck roof, and an eight ounce duck wall. The wall to be two and a half or three feet in height, with a foot or more of sod cloth. The pitch of the tent should be pretty sharp to throw off the rain. I would not have it less than nine or ten feet in height. Better than this, a square tent, called the "Egyptian" tent, ten feet on each side, with a ten ounce roof and eight ounce wall, as in the bell tent. Of course a smaller tent may be ordered, but this will prove a good serviceable size, and will not be so heavy to pack around, and will accommodate three or four men conveniently. The square, or Egyptian tent, will accommodate four men and quite an amount of outfit. One man can hoist one of these tents readily by driving in four stakes in the form of a square at the proper distance apart, fastening four of his guy lines on them, inserting his pole and raising the tent. Afterwards he can adjust the other guy lines and fasten them as required. A pole can always be got; it is needless to carry them. I would advise a large party taking several of these tents instead of one large one. They are easier to carry about and the party can separate, break itself into units, so to speak, for prospecting purposes. For a party of two a smaller tent will do. Tents should be provided before entry. Material for their construction is expensive, and the supply limited in that country. The cost of making them is also much more than here. If possible have the door made mosquito-proof. This is easily done by attaching a piece of cotton gauze or very light cotton cloth to each side of the door, which can be folded together and tied up with tape fastened to the walls to support it. This will prove a great comfort. To exclude them effectually we must load down our sod cloth well, or

they will make entry that way. They will get in in most surprising ways and places.

In conclusion, I would say, make your outfit as simple and serviceable as possible. Do not meddle with notions, designed to overcome this, that or the other difficulty, as they very often create more trouble than that we take them to obviate. Metallic boats I would specially warn against. They may be light, capacious and useful, but they are easily fractured and difficult to mend, while a wooden boat can be mended at almost any time and place, and breaks and fractures may be confidently looked forward to. If basswood canoes are taken, some pieces of the planking should be taken along for mending with. Some rough lengths, which would not be of much service in the construction of a boat or canoe, can easily be carried in the bottom. When a break is made in a canoe, if the parts are not too much fractured, they may be coated with white lead on the broken edges, pushed back to their original position, a piece of the planking cut to overlap the fracture, coated with white lead, put over it on the inside and nailed and clinched tight to it. This makes it as strong as ever. Should the break be too bad to do this with, the fractured parts should be cut out neatly with a bevel on the cut edge; a piece of planking cut bevelled edge to fit this hole is put into it, after coating the edge with white lead, and another piece put over it on the inside, as before, so as to lap over the cut joint; and nailed and clinched, will make the boat as sound as new, and it is only the work of an hour or less.

OUTPUT OF KLONDIKE FOR THIS YEAR.

It has been conservatively estimated that the output for the Klondike during the present year will be as follows:

Bonanza Creek	$12,000,000
El Dorado Creek	9,000,000
Big and Little Skookum Gulches, including the bench claims	800,000
Hunker Creek	1,000,000
Bear Creek	400,000
Dominion Creek	150,000
Sulphur Creek	150,000
Gay Gulch	300,000
Last Chance Creek	100,000
Gold Bottom Creek	60,000
All other creeks in the two divisions	50,000

Since the above estimate was made, over $16,000,000 has come out to date (August 20th), and it is known that one transportation company alone has $8,000,000 on deposit with them which is yet to be shipped. Taking into consideration the few men at work and other conditions in the north, this is indeed a remarkable showing. Taking California as a criterion, this is nothing as compared to what the output will be in future years, and from the numerous discoveries which have been made on both the Canadian and American sides during the present summer, Mr. Ogilvie is no doubt right when he says that the northwest territory of Canada and Alaska will be the greatest gold producing countries in the world inside of five years.

It is an interesting fact to note that nine-tenths (9-10) of the world's supply of gold has come from placer mining.

TABLE OF DISTANCES.

The following tables of distances will be useful; all are approximations:

STICKEEN-TESLIN ROUTE.

Victoria to Wrangel	800	miles.
Wrangel to Glennaro	148	"
Glennaro to Teslin Lake	150	"
Head of Teslin Lake to Dawson City	600	"
	1,698	"

TAKU ROUTE.

Victoria to Juneau	924	miles.
Juneau to head of Taku Inlet	52	"
Head of Inlet to Teslin Lake	108	"
Teslin Lake to Dawson City	600	"
	1,664	"

SKAGWAY, OR WHITE PASS ROUTE.

Victoria to Skagway	1,024	miles.
Skagway to the Lakes	36	"
Lakes to Dawson City	534	"
	1,594	"

DYEA, OR CHILKOOT PASS ROUTE.

Victoria to Dyea	1,028	miles.
Dyea to the Lakes	32	"
Lakes to Dawson City	534	"
	1,594	"

DALTON TRAIL, OR CHILKOOT PASS ROUTE.

Victoria to head of Pyramid Harbor	1,030	miles.
Pyramid Harbor to Fort Selkirk	420	"
Fort Selkirk to Dawson City	186	"
	1,626	

ST. MICHAEL'S ROUTE.

Victoria to St. Michael's	2,200	miles.
St. Michael's to mouth of Yukon	60	"
Mouth of Yukon to Dawson City	2,000	"
	4,260	"

PROCESS OF PLACER MINING.

"The process of placer mining is about as follows: After clearing all the coarse gravel and stones off a patch of ground, the miner lifts a little of the firmer gravel or sand in his pan, which is a broad shallow dish, made of strong sheet iron; he then puts in water enough to fill the pan and gives it a few rapid whirls and shakes; this tends to bring the gold to the bottom on account of its greater specific gravity. The dish is then shaken and held in such a way that the gravel and sand are gradually washed out, care being taken as the process nears completion to avoid letting out the finer and heavier parts that have settled to the bottom. Finally all that is left in the pan is whatever gold that may have been in the dish, and some black sand which invariably accompanies it. This black sand is nothing but pulverized magnetic iron ore.

"Should the gold thus found be fine, the contents of the pan are thrown into a barrel containing water and a pound or two of mercury. As soon as the



STICKINE RIVER — GLENORA LANDING — TAKEN FROM DECK OF HUDSON'S BAY STEAMER CALEDONIA.

gold comes in contact with the mercury it combines and forms an amalgam. This process is continued until enough amalgam has been formed to pay for 'roasting' or 'firing.' It is then squeezed through a buckskin bag, all the mercury that comes through the bag being put back into the barrel to serve again, and what remains in the bag is placed in a retort, if the miner has one, or if not, on a shovel, and heated until nearly all the mercury is evaporized. The gold then remains in a lump with some mercury still held in combination with it. This is called the 'pan' or 'hand' method, and is never, on account of its slowness and laboriousness, continued for any length of time when it is possible to procure a 'rocker,' or to make and work sluices.

A MORE ELABORATE METHOD.

"A rocker is simply about three feet long and two wide, made with a heavy sheet iron bottom, which is punched full of quarter-inch holes. The other part of the box is fitted with an incline about midway in its depth, which is six or eight inches lower at its lower end than at its upper. Over this is placed a piece of heavy woolen blanket. The whole is then mounted on two rockers, much resembling those of an ordinary cradle, and when in use they are placed on two blocks of wood so that the whole may be readily rocked.

"After the miner has selected his claim he looks for the most convenient place to set up his 'rocker,' which must be near a good supply of water.

"Then he proceeds to clear away all the stones and coarse gravel, gathering the finer gravel and sand in a heap near the 'rocker.' The shallow box on top is filled with this, and with one hand the miner rocks it, while with the other hand he ladles in the water. The finer matter with the gold falls through the holes onto the blanket, which checks its progress and holds the fine particles of gold, while the sand and other matter pass over it to the bottom of the box, which is sloped so that what comes through is washed downward and finally out of the box.

"Across the bottom of the box are fixed thin slats, behind which some mercury is placed to catch any particles of gold that may escape the blanket. If the gold is nuggety, the large nuggets are found in the upper box, their weight detaining them until all the lighter stuff has passed through, and the smaller ones are held by a deeper slat at the outward end of the bottom of the box. The piece of blanket is at intervals taken out and rinsed into a barrel if the gold is fine, mercury being placed at the bottom of the barrel.

SLUICING FOR GOLD.

"Sluicing is always employed when possible. It requires a good supply of water, with sufficient head or fall. The process is as follows: Planks are procured and formed into a box of suitable width and depth. Slats are fixed across the bottom of the box at suitable intervals, or shallow holes are bored in the bottom in such order that no particle could run along the bottom in a straight line and escape running over a hole. Several of these boxes are then set up with a considerable slope, and are fitted into one another at the ends, like a stovepipe. A stream of water is now directed into the upper end of the highest box. The gravel having been collected, as in the case of the rocker, it is shoveled into the upper box, and is washed downward by the strong current

of water. The gold is detained by its weight, and is held by the slats or in the holes mentioned; if it is fine, mercury is placed behind the slats or in these holes to catch it.

"In this way about three times as much dirt can be washed as by the rocker, and consequently three times as much gold can be secured in a given time.

"A great many of the miners spend their time in the summer prospecting, and in the winter resort to what is call 'burning.' They make fires on the surface, thus thawing the ground until the bed-rock is reached. The pay dirt is brought to the surface and heaped in a pile until spring, when water can be obtained. The sluice boxes are then set up and the dirt is washed out, thus enabling the miner to work advantageously and profitably the year round. This method has been found very satisfactory in places where the pay streak is at any great depth from the surface. In this way the complaint is overcome which has so commonly been advanced by the miners and others that in the Yukon several months of the year are lost in idleness. Winter usually sets in very soon after the middle of September and continues until the beginning of June. The mercury frequently falls to 60 degrees below zero, but in the interior there is so little humidity in the atmosphere that the cold is more easily endured than on the coast. In the absence of thermometers, miners, it is said, leave their mercury out all night and when they find it frozen solid in the morning they conclude that it is too cold to work. The temperature runs to great extremes in summer, as well as in winter, it being quite a common thing for the thermometer to register 100 degrees in the shade."

ALASKA MINING LAWS.

The Act of Congress of May 17, 1884, providing a civil government for Alaska, provides that: "The laws of the United States relating to mining claims and the rights incident thereto, shall, from and after the passage of this act, be in full force and effect in said district." The further mining laws applicable are as follows:

United States Revised Statutes, Sec. 2318. In all cases lands valuable for minerals shall be reserved from sale, except as otherwise expressly directed by law.

Sec. 2319. All valuable mineral deposits in lands belonging to the United States, both surveyed and unsurveyed, are hereby declared to be free and open to exploration and purchase, and the lands in which they are found to occupation and purchase, by citizens of the United States and those who have declared their intention to become such, under regulations prescribed by law, and according to local customs or rules of miners in the several mining districts, so far as the same are applicable and not inconsistent with the laws of the United States.

Sec. 2320. Mining claims upon veins or lodes or quartz or other rock in place, bearing gold, silver, cinnabar, lead, tin, copper or other valuable deposits heretofore located, shall be governed as to length along the vein or lode by the

customs, regulations and laws in force at the date of location. A mining claim located after the tenth of May, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, whether located by one or more persons, may equal but shall not exceed one thousand five hundred feet in length along the vein or lode; but no location of a mining claim shall be made until the discovery of the vein or lode within the limits of the claim located. No claim shall extend more than three hundred feet on each side of the middle of the vein at the surface, nor shall any claim be limited by any mining regulation to less than twenty-five feet on each side of the middle of the vein at the surface, except where adverse rights existing on the tenth day of May, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, render such limitation necessary. The end lines of each claim shall be parallel to each other.

Sec. 2322. The locators of all mining locations, heretofore made or which shall hereafter be made, on any mineral vein, lode, or ledge, situated on the public domain, their heirs and assigns, where no adverse claim exists on the tenth day of May, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, so long as they comply with the laws of the United States, and with state, territorial and local regulations not in conflict with the laws of the United States governing their possessory title, shall have the exclusive right of possession and enjoyment of all the surface included within the lines of their locations, and of all veins, lodes, or ledges, throughout their entire depth, and the top or apex which lies inside of such surface lines extended downward vertically, although such veins, lodes, or ledges may so far depart from a perpendicular in their course downward as to extend outside the vertical outside lines of such surface locations. But their right of possession to such outside parts of such veins or ledges shall be confined to such portions thereof as lie between vertical planes drawn downward as above described through the end lines of their locations, so continued in their own direction that such planes will intersect such exterior parts of such veins or ledges. And nothing in this section shall authorize the locator or possessor of a vein or lode, which extends in its downward course beyond the vertical lines of his claim, to enter upon the surface of a claim owned or possessed by another.

Sec. 2324. The miners of each mining district shall make regulations not in conflict with the laws of the United States, or with the laws of the state or territory in which the district is situated, governing the location, manner of recording, amount of work necessary to hold possession of a mining claim, subject to the following requirements: The location must be distinctly marked on the ground so that its boundaries can be readily traced. All records of mining claims hereafter made shall contain the name or names of the locators, the date of the location and such description of the claim or claims located by reference to some natural object or permanent monument as will identify the claim. On each claim located after the tenth day of May, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and until a patent has been issued therefor, not less than one hundred dollars' worth of labor shall be performed or improvement made during each year. On all claims located prior to the tenth of May, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, ten dollars' worth of labor shall be performed, or improvements made by the tenth of June, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, and each year thereafter for each one hundred feet along the vein until a patent has been issued therefor; but where such claims are held in common such expenditure may be made upon any one claim; and upon failure to comply



DOG TRAIN.

with these conditions, the claim or mine upon which such failure occurred shall be opened to relocation in the same manner as if no location of the same had ever been made; provided, that the original locators, their heirs, assigns, or legal representatives, have not resumed work upon the claim after failure and before such location. Upon the failure of any one of several co-owners who have performed the labor, or made the improvements, may, at the expiration of the year, give such delinquent co-owner personal notice in writing or notice by publication in the newspaper published nearest the claim, for at least once a week for ninety days, and if at the expiration of ninety days after such notice in writing, or by publication, such delinquent should fail or refuse to contribute his proportion of the expenditure required by this section, his interest in the claim shall become the property of his co-owners, who have made the expenditures.

Sec. 2336.. Where two or more veins intersect or cross each other, priority of title shall govern, and such prior location shall be entitled to all ore or mineral contained within the space of intersection; but the subsequent location shall have the right of way through the space of intersection for the purposes of the convenient working of the mine. And where two or more veins unite, the oldest, or prior location, shall take the vein below the point of union, including the space of intersection.

Sec. 2335. A patent for any land claimed and located for valuable deposits may be obtained in the following manner: Any person, association or corporation authorized to locate a claim under this chapter, having claimed and located a piece of land for such purposes, who has, or have, complied with the terms of this chapter, may file in the proper land office an application for a patent, under oath, showing such compliance, together with a plat and field notes of the claim or claims in common, made by, or under the direction of the United States Surveyor General, showing accurately the boundaries of the claim or claims, which shall be distinctly marked by monuments on the ground, and shall post a copy of such plat, together with a notice of such application for a patent in a conspicuous place on the land embraced in such plat previous to the filing of the application for a patent, and shall file an affidavit of at least two persons that such notice has been duly posted, and shall file a copy of such notice in such land office, and shall thereupon be entitled to a patent for the land, in the manner following: The register of the land office, upon the filing of such application, plat, field notes, notices and affidavits, shall publish a notice that such application has been made, for the period of sixty days, in a newspaper to be by him designated as published nearest to such claim; and he shall also post such notice in his office for the same period. The claimant at the time of filing this application, or at any time thereafter, within sixty days of publication, shall file with the registter a certificate of the United States Surveyor General that five hundred dollars' worth of labor has been expended on improvements made upon the claim by himself or grantors; that the plat is correct, with such further description by such reference to natural objects or permanent monuments as shall identify the claim and furnish an accurate description, to be incorporated in the patent. At the expiration of the sixty days of publication, the claimant shall file his affidavit showing that the plat and notice have been posted in a conspicuous place on the claim during such period of publication. If no adverse claim shall have been filed with the

register and the receiver of the proper land office at the expiration of the sixty days of publication, it shall be assumed that the applicant is entitled to a patent, upon the payment to the proper officer of five dollars per acre, and that no adverse claim exists; and that thereafter no objections from third parties to the issuance of a patent shall be heard, except it be shown that the applicant has failed to comply with the terms of this chapter.

Sec. 2327. The description of vein or lode claims, upon surveyed lands, shall designate the location of the claim with reference to the lines of the public surveys, but need not conform therewith; but where a patent shall be issued for claims upon surveyed lands the Surveyor-General, in extending the surveys, shall adjust the same to the boundaries of such patented claims, according to the plat or description thereof, but so as in no case to interfere with or change the location of any such patented claim.

Act of Congress of January 22, 1880—An act to amend sections twenty-three hundred and twenty-four and twenty-three hundred and twenty-five of the Revised Statutes of the United States concerning mineral lands.

Be it enacted, etc., That section twenty-three hundred and twenty-five of the Revised Statutes of the United States be amended by adding hereto the following words: "Provided, that where the claimant for a patent is not a resident of or in the land district wherein the vein, lode, ledge or deposit sought to be patented is located, the application for patent and the affidavits required to be made in this section by the claimant for such patent may be made by his, her, or its authorized agent where said agent is conversant with the facts sought to be established by said affidavits; and provided, that this section shall apply to all applications now pending for patents to mineral lands."

Sec. 2. That section twenty-three hundred and twenty-four of the Revised Statutes of the United States be amended by adding thereto the following words: "Provided, That the period in which the work required to be done annually on all unpatented mineral claims shall commence on the first day of January succeeding the date of location of such claim and this section shall apply to all claims located since the tenth of May, Anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

Act of Congress of February 11, 1875.—An act to amend section two thousand three hundred and twenty-four of the Revised Statutes, relating to the development of the mining resources of the United States.

Be it enacted, etc., That section two thousand three hundred and twenty-four of the Revised Statutes be and the same is hereby amended so that where a person or company has, or may run a tunnel for the purpose of developing a lode, or lodes, owned by said person or company, the money so expended in said tunnel shall be taken and considered as expended on said lode or lodes in order to hold the same as required by said act.

United States Law.—Sec. 2323. Where a tunnel is run for the development of a vein or lode, or for the discovery of mines, the owners of such tunnels shall have the right of possession of all veins or lodes within three thousand feet from the face of such tunnel on the line thereof, not previously known to exist, discovered in such tunnel, to the same extent as if discovered from the surface; and such locations on the line of such tunnel of veins or lodes not appearing on the surface, made by other parties after the commence-

ment of the tunnel, and while the same is being prosecuted with reasonable diligence, shall be invalid; but failure to prosecute the work on the tunnel for six months shall be considered as an abandonment of the right to all undiscovered veins on the line of such tunnel.

PLACER CLAIMS.

Sec. 2329. Claims usually called "placers," including all forms of deposit, excepting veins of quartz, or other rock in place, shall be subject to entry and patent, under like circumstances and conditions, and upon similar proceedings, as are provided for vein or lode claims; but where the lands have been previously surveyed by the United States the entry in its exterior limits shall conform to the legal subdivisions of the public lands.

United States Law.—Sec. 2330. Legal subdivisions of forty acres may be subdivided into ten-acre tracts; and two or more persons, or associations of persons, having contiguous claims of any size, although such claims may be less than ten acres each, may take joint entry thereof; but no location of a placer claim, made after the ninth day of July, eighteen hundred and seventy, shall exceed one hundred and sixty acres for any person, or association of persons, which location shall conform to the United States surveys; and nothing in this section contained shall defeat or impair any bona fide pre-emption or homestead claims upon agricultural lands, or authorize the sale of improvements of any bona fide settler to any purchaser.

Sec. 2331. Where placer claims are upon surveyed lands. and conform to legal subdivisions, no further survey or plat shall be required, and all placer-mining claims located after the tenth of May, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, shall conform as near as practicable with the United States system of public lands surveys, and no such location shall include more than twenty acres for each individual claimant; but where placer claims cannot be conformed to legal subdivisions, survey and plat shall be made as on unsurveyed lands, and where by the segregation of mineral lands in any legal subdivisions a quantity of agricultural land less than forty acres remains, such fractional portions of agricultural lands may be entered by any party qualified by law, for homestead or pre-emption purposes.

PLACER CLAIMS CONTAINING LODES.

United States Law.—Sec. 2333. Where the same person, association or corporation is in possession of a placer claim, and also a vein or lode included within the boundaries thereof, application shall be made for a patent for the placer claim, with the statement that it includes such vein or lode, and in such case a patent shall issue for a placer claim, subject to the provisions of this chapter, including such vein or lode, upon the payment of five dollars per acre for such vein or lode claim, and twenty-five feet of surface on each side thereof. The remainder of the placer claim, or any placer claim not embracing any vein or lode claim, shall be paid at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents per acre, together with all costs of proceedings; and where a vein or lode, such as is described in section twenty-three hundred and twenty, is known to exist within the boundaries of a placer claim, an application for a patent for such placer-claim which does not include an application for the vein or lode claim shall be construed as a conclusive declaration that the claimant of the placer claim has

no right of possession of the vein or lode claim; but where the existence of a vein or lode in a placer claim is not known, a patent for the placer claim shall convey all valuable mineral and other deposits within the boundaries thereof.

United States Law.—Sec. 2332. Where such person or association, they and their grantors, have held and worked their claims for a period equal to the time prescribed by the statute of limitations for mining claims of the state or territory where the same may be situated, evidence of such possession and the working of the claims for such period shall be sufficient to establish a right to patent thereto under this chapter, in the absence of any adverse claim; but nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to impair any lien which may have attached in any way whatever to any mining claim or property thereto attached prior to the issuance of a patent.

United States Law.—Sec. 2321. Proof of citizenship, under this chapter, may consist, in the case of an individual, of his own affidavit thereof; in the case of an association of persons unincorporated, of the affidavit of their authorized agent, made on his own knowledge, or upon information and belief, and in the case of a corporation organized under the laws of the United States, or of any state or territory thereof, by the filing of a certified copy of their charter or certificate of incorporation.

REGULATIONS.

Governing Placer Mining in the Provisional District of Yukon, Northwest Territories.

(Approved in Order of Council of 18th January, 1898.)

INTERPRETATION.

"Free Miner" shall mean a male or female over the age of eighteen, but not under that age, or joint stock company, named in, or lawfully possessed of, a valid existing free miner's certificate and no other.

"Legal post" shall mean a stake standing not less than four feet above the ground and flatted on two sides for at least one foot from the top. Both sides so flatted shall measure at least four inches across the face. It shall also mean any stump or tree cut off and flatted or faced to the above height and size.

"Close season" shall mean the period of the year which placer mining is generally suspended. The period to be fixed by the Mining Recorder in whose district the claim is situated.

"Mineral" shall include all minerals whatsoever other than coal.

"Joint Stock Company" shall mean any company incorporated for mining purposes under a Canadian charter or licensed by the Government of Canada.

"Mining Recorder" shall mean the official appointed by the Gold Commissioner to record applications and grant entries for claims in the Mining Divisions into which the Commissioner may Divide the Yukon District.

FREE MINERS AND THEIR PRIVILEGES.

1. Every person over, but not under eighteen years of age, and every joint stock company, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a free miner, under these regulations and under the regulations governing quartz mining, and shall be considered a free miner upon taking out a free miner's certificate. A free miner's certificate issued to a joint

stock company shall be issued in its corporate name. A free miner's certificate shall not be transferable.

2. A free miner's certificate may be granted for one year to run from the date thereof or from the expiration of the applicant's then existing certificate, upon the payment therefor of the sum of $10.00, unless the certificate is to be issued in favor of a joint stock company, in which case the fee shall be $50.00 for a company having a nominal capital of $100,000 or less, and for a company having a nominal capital exceeding $100,000, the fee shall be $100.00. Only one person or joint stock company shall be named in the certificate.

3. A free miner's certificate shall be on the following form:

DOMINION OF CANADA.

FREE MINER'S CERTIFICATE.

(Non-transferable.)

Date..... No.....

Valid for one year only.

This is to certify that.....of.....has paid me this day the sum of.....and is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a free miner, under any mining regulations of the Government of Canada, for one year from the.....day of.....18..

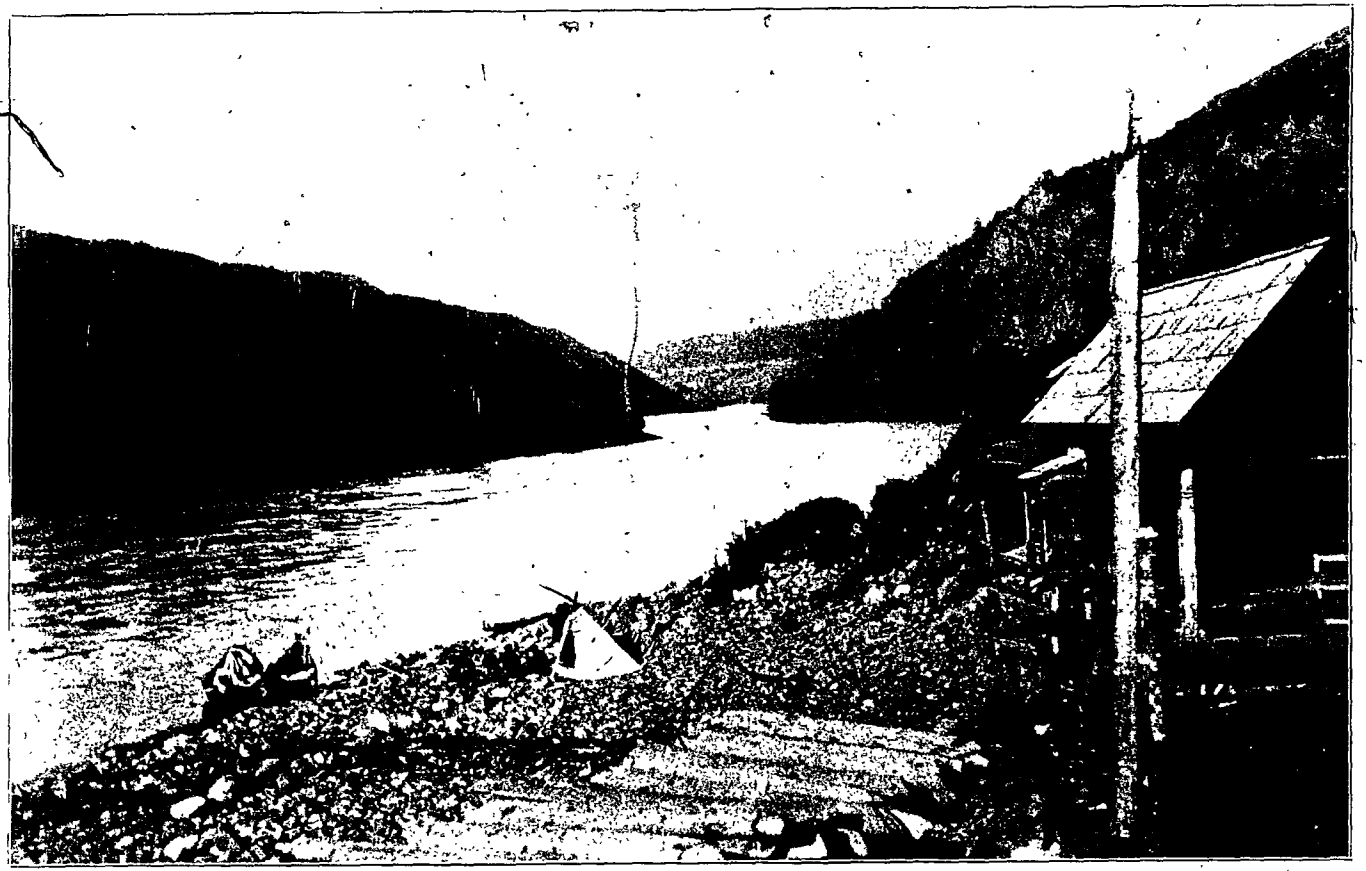
This certificate shall also grant to the holder thereof the privilege of fishing and shooting, subject to the provisions of any Act which has been passed, or which may hereafter be passed, for the protection of game and fish; also the privilege of cutting timber for actual necessities, for building houses, boats, and for general mining operations; such timber however, to be for the exclusive use of the miner himself, but such permission shall not extend to timber which may have been heretofore or which may hereafter be granted to other persons or corporations.

4. Free miner's certificates may be obtained by applicants in person at the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or from the agents of Dominion Lands at Winnipeg, Manitoba; Calgary, Edmonton, Prince Albert, in the Northwest Territories; Kamloops and New Westminster, in the Province of British Columbia; at Dawson City in the Yukon District; also from agents of the Government at Vancouver and Victoria, B. C., and at other places which may from time to time be named by the Minister of the Interior.

5. If any person or joint stock company shall apply for a free miner's certificate at the agent's office during his absence, and shall leave the fee required by these regulations with the officer or other person in charge of said office, he or it shall be entitled to have such certificate from the date of such application; and any free miner shall at any time be entitled to obtain a free miner's certificate commencing to run from the expiration of his then existing free miner's certificate, provided that when he applies for such certificate he shall produce to the agent, or in case of his absence shall leave with the officer or other person in charge of the agent's office, such existing certificate.

6. If any free miner's certificate be accidentally destroyed or lost, the owner thereof may, on payment of a fee of $2, have a true copy of it, signed by the agent, or other person by whom or out of whose office the original was issued. Every such copy shall be marked "Substituted Certificate;" and unless some material irregularity be shown in respect thereof, every original or substituted free miner's certificate shall be evidence of all matters therein contained.

7. No person or joint stock company will be recognized as having any right or interest in or to any placer claim, quartz claim, mining lease, bed-rock flume grant, or any minerals in any ground comprised therein, or in or to any water right, mining ditch, drain, tunnel, or flume, unless he or it and every person in his or its employment shall have a free miner's certificate unexpired. And on the expiration of a free miner's certificate the owner thereof shall absolutely forfeit all his rights and interest in or to any placer claim, mining lease, bed-rock flume grant, and any minerals in any ground comprised therein, and in or to any and every water right, mining ditch, drain, tunnel, or flume, which may be held or claimed by such owner of such expired free miner's certificate, unless such owner shall, on or before the day following the expiration of such certificate, obtain a new free miner's certificate. Provided, nevertheless, that should any co-owner fail to keep up his free miner's certificate, such failure shall not cause a forfeiture or act as an abandonment of the claim, but the interest of



THE STICKINE RIVER — LOOKING DOWN STREAM FROM TELEGRAPH CREEK.

the co-owner who shall fail to keep up his free miner's certificate shall, *ipso facto*, be and become vested in his co-owners, *pro rata*, according to their former interests; provided, nevertheless, that a shareholder in a joint stock company need not be a free miner, and, though not a free miner, shall be entitled to buy, sell, hold, or dispose of any shares therein.

8. Every free miner shall, during the continuance of his certificate, but not longer, have the right to enter, locate, prospect, and mine for gold and other minerals upon any lands in the Yukon District, whether vested in the Crown or otherwise, except upon government reservations for town sites, land which is occupied by any building, and any land falling within the curtilage of any dwelling house, and any land lawfully occupied for placer mining purposes, and also Indian reservations.

9. Previous to any entry being made upon lands lawfully occupied, such free miner shall give adequate security, to the satisfaction of the Mining Recorder, for any loss or damage which may be caused by such entry; and after such entry he shall make full compensation to the occupant or owner of such lands for any loss or damage which may be caused by reason of such entry; such compensation, in case of dispute, to be determined by a court having jurisdiction in mining disputes, with or without a jury.

NATURE AND SIZE OF CLAIMS.

10. A creek or gulch claim shall be 250 feet long measured in the general direction of the creek or gulch. The boundaries of the claim which run in the general direction of the creek or gulch shall be lines along bed or rim rock, three feet higher than the rim or edge of the creek, or the lowest general level of the gulch within the claim, so drawn or marked as to be at every point three feet above the rim or edge of the creek or the lowest general level of the gulch, opposite to it at right angles to the general direction of the claim for its length, but such boundaries shall not in any case exceed 1,000 feet on each side of the center of the stream or gulch.

11. If the boundaries be less than one hundred feet apart horizontally, they shall be lines traced along bed or rim rock one hundred feet apart horizontally, following as nearly as practicable the direction of the valley for the length of the claim.

12. A river claim shall be situated only on one side of the river, and shall not exceed 250 feet in length, measured in the general direction of the river. The other boundary of the claim which runs in the general direction of the river shall be lines along bed or rim rock three feet higher than the rim or edge of the river within the claim so drawn or marked as to be at every point three feet above the rim or edge of the river opposite to it at right angles to the general direction of the claim for its length, but such boundaries shall not in any case be less than 250 feet, or exceed a distance of 1,000 feet from low water mark of the river.

13. A "hill claim" shall not exceed 250 feet in length, drawn parallel to the main direction of the stream or ravine on which it fronts. Parallel lines drawn from each end of the base line at right angles thereto, and running to the summit of the hill (provided the distance does not exceed 1,000 feet), shall constitute the end boundaries of the claim.

14. All other placer claims shall be 250 feet square.

15. Every placer claim shall be as nearly as possible rectangular in form, and marked by two legal posts firmly fixed in the ground. The line between the two posts shall be well cut out so that one post may, if the nature of the surface will permit, be seen from the other. The flatted side of each post shall face the claim, and on each post shall be written on the side facing the claim, a legible notice stating the name or number of the claim, or both if possible, its length in feet, the date when staked, and the full christian and surname of the locator.

16. Every alternate ten claims shall be reserved for the Government of Canada. That is to say, when a claim is located, the discoverer's claim and nine additional claims adjoining each other, and numbered consecutively, will be open for registration. Then the next ten claims of 250 feet each will be reserved for the Government, and so on. The alternate group of claims reserved for the Crown shall be disposed of in such manner as may be decided by the Minister of the Interior.

17. The penalty for trespassing upon a claim reserved for the Crown shall be immediate cancellation by the Mining Recorder of any entry or entries which the person trespassing may have obtained, whether by original entry or purchase, for a mining claim, and the refusal by the Mining Recorder of the acceptance of any application which the person trespassing may

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at any time make for a claim. In addition to such penalty, the Mounted Police, upon a requisition from the Mining Recorder to that effect, shall take the necessary steps to eject the trespasser.

18. In defining the size of claims, they shall be measured horizontally, irrespective of inequalities on the surface of the ground.

19. If any free miner or party of free miners discover a new mine, and such discovery shall be established to the satisfaction of the Mining Recorder, creek, river or hill, claims of the following size shall be allowed, namely—

To one discoverer, one claim, 500 feet in length.

To a party of two discoverers, two claims, amounting together to 1,000 feet in length.

To each member of a party beyond two in number, a claim of the ordinary size only.

20. A new stratum of auriferous earth or gravel situated in a locality where the claims have been abandoned shall for this purpose be deemed a new mine, although the same locality shall have been previously worked at a different level.

21. The forms of application for a grant for placer mining, and the grant of the same, shall be those contained in Forms "H" and "I" in the schedule hereto.

22. A claim shall be recorded with the Mining Recorder in whose district it is situated, within ten days after the location thereof, if it is located within ten miles of the Mining Recorder's office. One extra day shall be allowed for every additional ten miles or fraction thereof.

23. In the event of the claim being more than one hundred miles from a Recorder's office, and situated where other claims are being located, the free miners, not less than five in number, are authorized to meet and appoint one of their number a "Free Miners' Recorder," who shall act in that capacity until a Mining Recorder is appointed by the Gold Commissioner.

24. The "Free Miners' Recorder" shall, at the earliest possible date after his appointment, notify the nearest Government Mining Recorder thereof, and upon the arrival of the Government Mining Recorder, he shall deliver to him his records and the fees received for recording the claims. The Government Mining Recorder shall then grant to each free miner whose name appears in the records, an entry for his claim on Form "I" of these regulations, provided an application has been made by him in accordance with Form "H" thereof. The entry to date from the time the "Free Miners' Recorder" recorded the application.

25. If the "Free Miners' Recorder" fails within three months to notify the nearest Government Mining Recorder of his appointment, the claims which he may have recorded will be cancelled.

26. During the absence of the Mining Recorder from his office, the entry for a claim may be granted by any person whom he may appoint to perform his duties in his absence.

27. Entry shall not be granted for a claim which has not been staked by the applicant in person in the manner specified in these regulations. An affidavit that the claim was staked out by the applicant shall be embodied in Form "H" in the schedule hereto.

28. An entry fee of $15.00 shall be charged the first year, and an annual fee of $15.00 for each of the following years. This provision shall apply to claims for which entries have already been granted.

29. A statement of the entries granted and fees collected shall be rendered by the Mining Recorder to the Gold Commissioner at least every three months, which shall be accompanied by the amount collected.

30. A royalty of 10 per cent on the gold mined shall be levied and collected on the gross output of each claim. The royalty may be paid at banking offices to be established under the auspices of the Government of Canada, or to the Gold Commissioner, or to any Mining Recorder authorized by him. The sum of $2,500.00 shall be deducted from the gross annual output of a claim when estimating the amount upon which royalty is to be calculated, but this exemption shall not be allowed unless the royalty is paid at a banking office or to the Gold Commissioner or Mining Recorder. When the royalty is paid monthly or at longer periods, the deduction shall be made ratable on the basis of $2,500 00 per annum for the claim. If not paid to the bank, Gold Commissioner or Mining Recorder, it shall be collected by the customs officials or police officers when the miner passes the posts established at the boundary of a district. Such royalty to form part of the consolidated revenue, and to be accounted for by the officers who collect the same in due course. The time and manner in which such royalty shall be collected shall be provided for by regulations to be made by the Gold Commissioner.

31. Default in payment of such royalty, if continued for ten days after notice has been posted on the claim in respect of which it is demanded, or in the vicinity of such claim, by the Gold Commissioner or his agent, shall be followed by cancellation of the claim. Any attempt to defraud the Crown by withholding any part of the revenue thus provided for, by making false statements of the amount taken out, shall be punished by cancellation of the claim in respect of which fraud or false statements have been committed or made. In respect to the facts as to such fraud or false statements or non-payment of royalty, the decision of the Gold Commissioner shall be final.

32. After the recording of a claim the removal of any post by the holder thereof, or by any person acting in his behalf for the purpose of changing the boundaries of his claim, shall act as a forfeiture of the claim.

33. The entry of every holder of a grant for placer mining must be renewed and his receipt relinquished and replaced every year, the entry fee being paid each time.

34. The holder of a creek, gulch or river claim may, within sixty days after staking out the claim, obtain an entry for a hill claim adjoining it, by paying to the Mining Recorder the sum of $100.00. This permission shall also be given to the holder of a creek, gulch or river claim obtained under former regulations, provided that the hill claim is available at the time an application is made therefor.

35. No miner shall receive a grant of more than one mining claim in a mining district, the boundaries of which shall be defined by the Mining Recorder, but the same miner may also hold a hill claim, acquired by him under these regulations in connection with a creek, gulch or river claim, and any number of claims by purchase; and any number of miners may unite to work their claims in common, upon such terms as they may arrange, provided such agreement is registered with the Mining Recorder and a fee of $5.00 paid for each registration.

36. Any free miner or miners may sell, mortgage or dispose of his or their claims, provided such disposal be registered with, and a fee of $2.00 paid to the Mining Recorder, who shall thereupon give the assignee a certificate in the Form "J" in the schedule hereto.

37. Every free miner shall, during the continuance of his grant, have the exclusive right of entry upon his own claim for the miner-like working thereof, and the construction of a residence thereon, and shall be entitled exclusively to all the proceeds realized therefrom, upon which, however, the royalty prescribed by these regulations shall be payable; provided, that the Mining Recorder may grant to the holders of other claims such right of entry thereon as may be absolutely necessary for the working of their claims, upon such terms as may to him seem reasonable. He may also grant permits to miners to cut timber thereon for their own use.

38. Every free miner shall be entitled to the use of so much of the water naturally flowing through or past his claim, and not already lawfully appropriated, as shall, in the opinion of the Mining Recorder, be necessary for the due working thereof, and shall be entitled to drain his own claim free of charge.

39. A claim shall be deemed to be abandoned and open to occupation and entry by any person when the same shall have remained unworked on working days, excepting during the close season, by the grantee thereof or by some person on his behalf for the space of *seventy-two hours, unless sickness or other reasonable cause be shown to the satisfaction of the Mining Recorder, or unless the grantee is absent on leave given by the Mining Recorder, and the Mining Recorder, upon obtaining evidence satisfactory to himself, that this provision is not being complied with, may cancel the entry given for a claim.

40. If any casse arise for which no provision is made in these regulations, the provisions of the regulations governing the disposal of mineral lands other than coal lands, approved by His Excellency the Governor in Council on the 9th of November, 1889, or such other regulations as may be substituted therefor, shall apply.

*72 hours means three consecutive days of 24 hours each.

FORM H.—APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR PLACER MINING, AND AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICANT.

I (or we).....of.....hereby apply, under the Yukon Placer Mining Regulations, for a grant of a claim for placer mining

as defined in the said regulations, in (here describe locality) and I (or we) solemnly swear:—

1. That from indications I (or we) have observed on the claim applied for, I (or we) have reason to believe that there is therein a deposit of gold.

2. That I (or we) am (or are) to the best of my (or our) knowledge and belief the first to observe such indication, or:—

3. That the said claim was previously granted to (here name the last grantee) but has remained unworked by the said grantee for not less than.....

4. That I (or we) am (or are) unaware that the land is other than vacant Dominion lands.

5. That I (or we) did on the.....day of.....mark out on the ground in accordance in every particular with the provisions of the mining regulations for the Yukon District, the claim for which I (or we) make this application, and in so doing I (or we) did not encroach on any other claim or mining location previously laid out by any other person.

6. That the length of said claim, as nearly as I (or we) could measure is.....feet, and that the description of this date hereto attached, signed by me (or us) sets (or set) forth in detail, to the best of my (or our) knowledge and ability, its position.

7. That I (or we) make this application in good faith, to acquire the claim for the sole purpose of mining to be prosecuted by myself (or us) or by myself and associates, or by my (or our) assigns.

Sworn before me at..... this..... day of.....18....

(Signature)

FORM I.—GRANT FOR PLACER MINING.

No.....

Department of the Interior,

Agency..... .....18.....

In consideration of the payment of the fee of $15.00 prescribed by Clause 28 of the mining regulations for the Yukon District, by..... ..(A. B.).....of..... accompanying his (or their) application No.....dated.....18 , for a mining claim in .....(here insert description of locallty).

The Minister of Interior hereby grants to the said.....(A. B.).....for the term of one year from the date hereof, the exclusive right of entry upon the claim.....(here describe in detail the claim granted) for the miner-like working thereof, and the construction of a residence thereon, and the exclusive right to all the proceeds realized therefrom, upon which, however, the royalty prescribed by the regulations shall be paid.

The said.....(A. B.).....shall be entitled to the use of so much of the water naturaly flowing through or past his (or their) claim, and not already lawfully appropriated, as shall be necessary for the due working thereof, and to drain his (or their) claim, free of charge.

This grant does not convey to the said.....(A. B.).....any right of ownership in the soil covered by the said claim, and the said grant shall lapse and be forfeited unless the claim is continuously and in good faith worked by the said.....(A. B.).....or his (or their) associates.

The rights hereby granted are those laid down in the aforesaid mining regulations, and no more, and are subject to all the provisions of the said regulations, whether the same are expressed herein or not.

.....

Mining Recorder.

FORM J.—CERTIFICATE OF THE ASSIGNMENT OF A PLACER MINING CLAIM.

No.....

Department of the Interior,

Agency.....18....

This is to certify that.....(A. B.).....of.....has (or have) filed an assignment in due form dated..... .18...., and accompanied by a registration fee of two dollars, of the grant to.....(A. B.).....of.....of the right to mine in....(here insert description of claim)....for one year from the.....18....

This certificate entitles the said.....(B. C.).....to all the rights and privileges of the said.....(A. B.).....in respect to the claim assigned, that is to say, to the exclusive right of entry upon the said claim for the miner-like working thereof and the construction of a residence thereon, and the exclusive right to all the proceeds realized therefrom (upon which, however, the royalty prescribed by the regulations shall be paid) for the remaining portion of the year for which the said claim was granted to the said ..... (A. B.).....that is to say, until the.....day of.....18....

The said.....(B. C.).....shall be entitled to the use of so much of the water naturally flowing through or past his (or their) claim and not already lawfully appropriated, as shall be necessary for the due working thereof and to drain his claim, free of charge.

This grant does not convey to the said.....(B. C.).....any right of ownership in the soil covered by the said claim, and the said grant shall lapse and be forfeited unless the claim is continuously and in good faith worked by the said.....(B. C.).....or his (or their) associates.

The rights hereby granted are those laid down in the Yukon Placer Mining Regulations, and no more, and are subject to all the provisions of the said regulations, whether the same are expressed herein or not.

.....

Mining Recorder.

REGULATIONS

Governing the Issue of Leases to Dredge for Minerals in the Beds of Rivers in the Provisional District of Yukon, Northwest Territories.

(Approved of by Order in Council No. 125 of the 18th January, 1898.)

The following regulations are adopted for the issue of leases to persons or companies who have obtained a free miner's certificate in accordance with the provisions of the regulations governing placer mining in the Provisional District of Yukon, to dredge for minerals other than coal in the submerged beds or bars of rivers in the Provisional District of Yukon, in the Northwest Territories—

1. The lessee shall be given the exclusive right to subaqueous mining and dredging for all minerals with the exception of coal in and along an unbroken extent of five miles of a river following its sinuosities, to be measured down the middle thereof, and to be described by the lessee in such manner as to be easily traced on the ground; and although the lessee may also obtain as many as five other leases, each for an unbroken extent of five miles of a river, so measured and described, no more than six such leases will be issued in favor of an individual or company, so that the maximum extent of river in and along which any individual or company shall be given the exclusive right above mentioned, shall under no circumstances exceed thirty miles. The lease shall provide for the survey of the leasehold under instructions from the Surveying General, and for the filing of the returns of survey in the Department of the Interior within one year from the date of the lease.

2. The lease shall be for a term of twenty years, at the end of which time all rights vested in or which may be claimed by the lessee under his lease, are to cease and determine.

The lease may be renewable, however, from time to time thereafter in the discretion of the Minister of the Interior.

3. The lessee's right of mining and dredging shall be confined to the submerged beds or bars in the river below water mark, that boundary to be fixed by its position on the first day of August in the year of the date of the lease.

4. The lease shall be subject to the rights of all persons who have received or who may receive entries for claims under the Placer Mining Regulations.

5. The lessee shall have at least one dredge in operation upon the five miles of river leased to him, within two seasons from the date of his lease, and if, during one season when operations can be carried on, he fails to efficiently work the same to the satifaction of the Minister of the Interior, the lease shall become null and void unless the Minister of the Interior shall otherwise decide. Provided that when any company or individual has obtained more than one lease, one dredge for each fifteen miles or portion thereof shall be held to be compliance with this regulation.

6. The lessee shall pay a rental of $100.00 per annum for each mile of river so leased to him. The lessee shall also pay to the Crown a royalty of ten per centum on the output in excess of $15,000.00, as shown by sworn returns to be furnished monthly by the lessee to the Gold Commissioner during the period that dredging operations are being carried on; such royalty, if any, to be paid with each return.

7. The lessee who is the holder of more than one lease shall be entitled to the exemption as to royalty provided for by the next preceding regulation to the extent of $15,000 for each five miles of river for which he is the holder of a lease; but the lessee under one lease shall not be entitled to the exemption as to royalty provided by the next two preceding regulations, where the dredge or dredges used by him have been used in dredging by another lessee, or in any case in respect of more than thirty miles.

8. The lessee shall be permitted to cut, free of all dues, on any land belonging to the Crown, such timber as may be necessary for the purpose of his lease, but such permission shall not extend to timber which may have been heretofore or may hereafter be granted to other persons or corporations.

9. The lessee shall not interfere in any way with the general right of the public to use the river in which he may be permitted to dredge, for navigation or other purposes; the free navigation of the river shall not be impeded by the deposit of tailings in such manner as to form bars or banks in the channel thereof, and the current or stream shall not be obstructed in any material degree by the accumulation of such deposits.

10. The lease shall provide that any person who has received or may receive entry under the Placer Mining Regulations shall be entitled to run tailings into the river at any point thereon, and to construct all works which may be necessary for properly operating and working his claim. Provided that it shall not be lawful for such person to construct a wing dam within one thousand feet from the place where any dredge is being operated, nor to obstruct or interfere in any way with the operation of any dredge.

11. The lease shall reserve all roads, ways, bridges, drains and other public works, and all improvements now existing, or which may hereafter be made, in, upon or under any part of the river, and the power to enter and construct the same, and shall provide that the lessee shall not damage or obstruct any public ways, drains, bridges, works and improvements now or hereafter to be made upon, in, over, through or under the river; and that he will substantially bridge or cover and protect all the cuts, flumes, ditches and sluices, and all pits and dangerous places at all points where they may be crossed by a public highway or frequented path or trail, to the satisfaction of the Minister of the Interior.

12. That the lessee, his executors, administrators or assigns, shall not nor will not assign, transfer or sublet the demised premises, or any part thereof, without the consent in writing of the Minister first had and obtained.

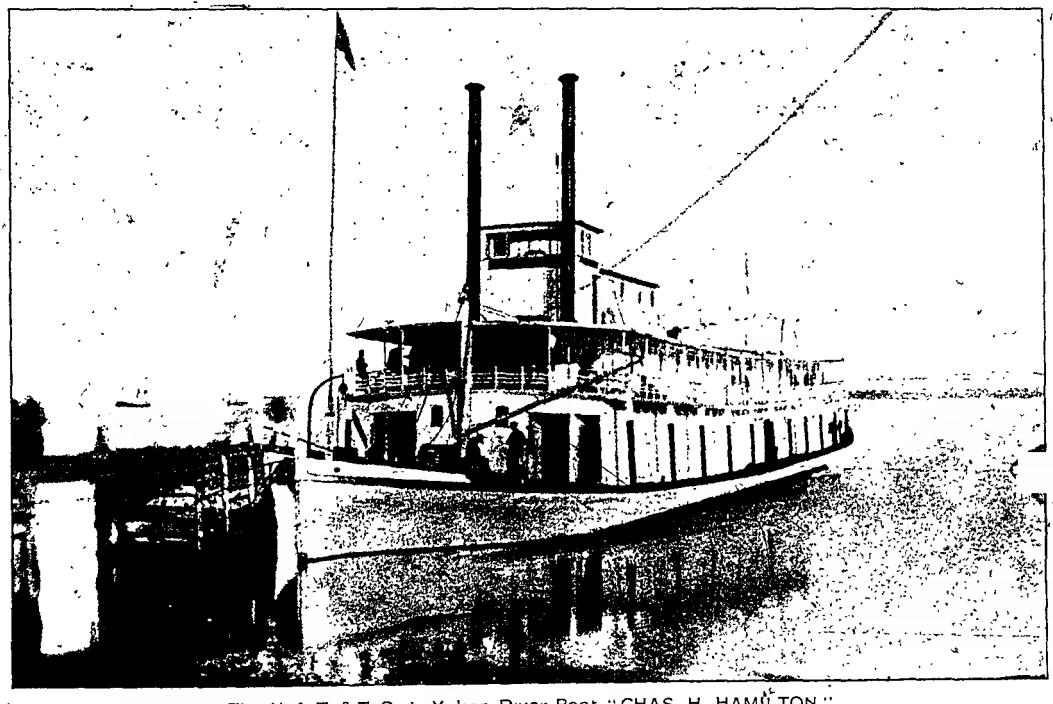
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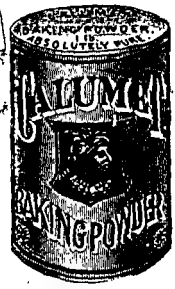
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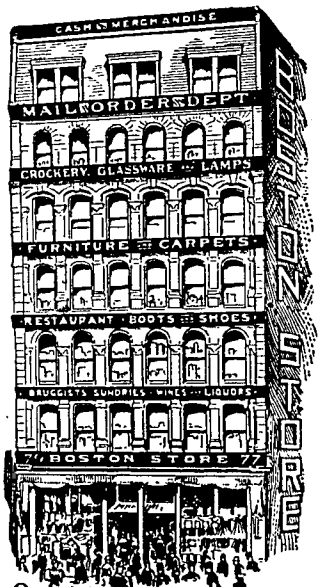


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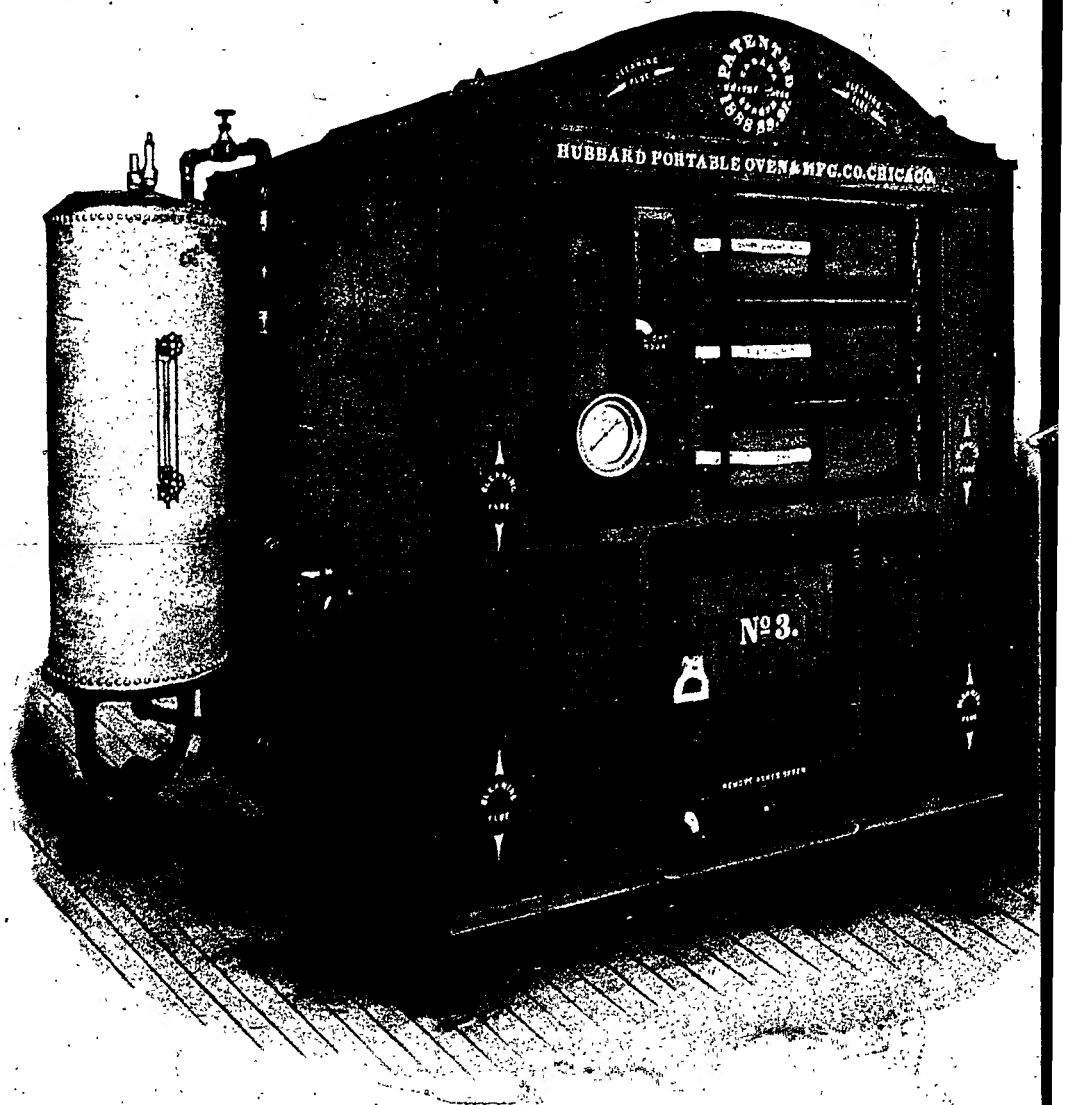
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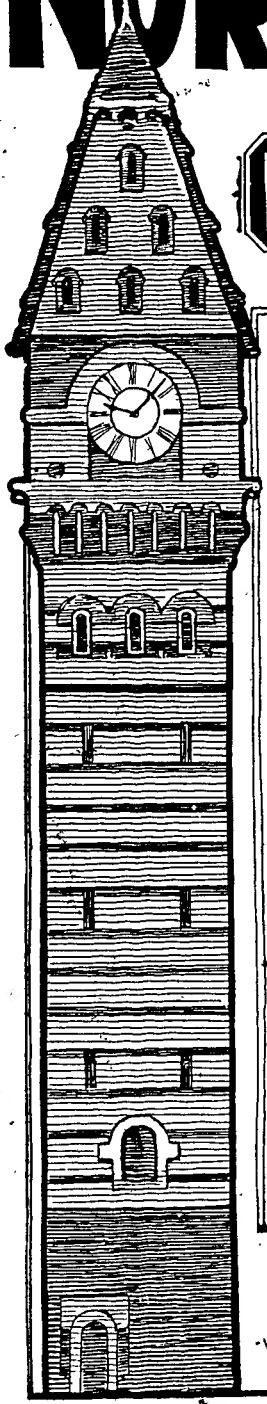
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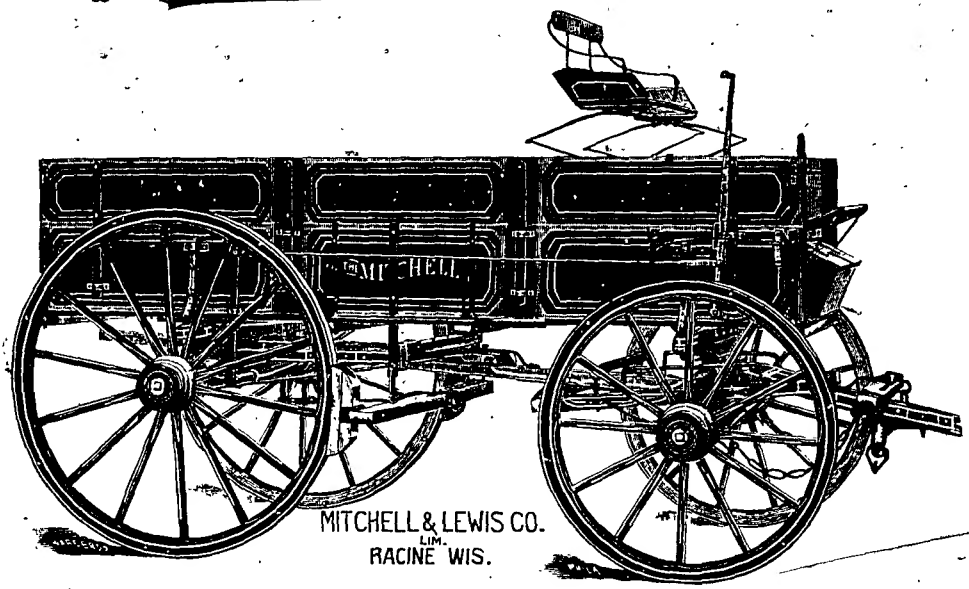
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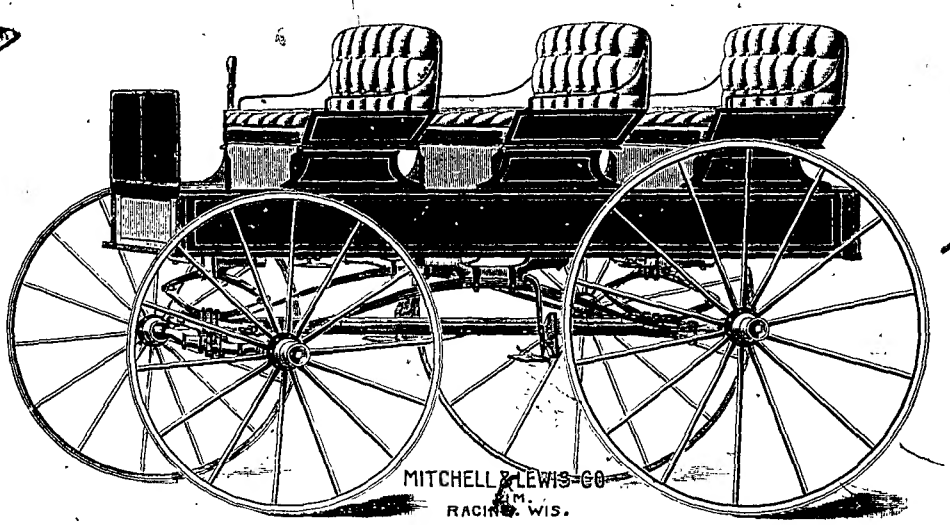
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